

THE SATURDAY REVIEW

OF
POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 2,417, Vol. 93.

22 February, 1902.

6d.

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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Now for some time the House of Commons has been "itself its own fever and pain"; and its self-analysis has not altogether tended to self-congratulation. Other business has been entirely blocked by the rather pettifogging discussions on the Procedure rules. The respective claims of the "diners-out" and the "week-enders" dichotomised the House after quite a new principle; and at a later period of the debate even Mr. Dillon was heard to commend Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Balfour and eagerly voted on their side. The "week-enders" won by a large majority urging, perhaps more speciously than honestly, that now the half-holiday was transferred from Wednesday to Friday they would more easily keep in touch with their constituencies; their links were not mentioned. In spite of a protest from the lawyers it was decided by a large majority that the afternoon sitting should begin at two o'clock instead of three. With a sense of proportion such as might have been expected the most important, almost revolutionary, rule was thought worthy of least discussion. The first reading of less important bills will now take place almost automatically and the constitutional liberty to balk discussion—though promises are held out with regard to more serious legislation—will greatly strengthen the Government for the time being and negative the powers of the Opposition. The new power of the Speaker to adjourn the House in case of "grave disorder" will be welcomed by all but the Irish.

Though successful on all these heads, on one minor point in his Procedure rules Mr. Balfour has been compelled to make two retreats. As the suggested rule stood, a member who would not speak an "adequate apology"—the phrase substituted for the "sincere regret" of the earlier draft—could never have returned to the House. But it was urged by Sir Michael Hicks Beach in private consultation that he could not indefinitely refuse a member who applied for it the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds. If a member thus retired and was re-elected, he would enter the House without making any apology at all. Mr. Balfour therefore substituted the proposal that a recalcitrant member should be suspended for 120 days, roughly the length of a session. But the retreat did not stop here. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and Mr. Redmond showed such pious horror at the premature discussion of so startling a constitutional change that

Mr. Balfour accepted, in ingenuous alarm at the storm he had raised, the proposal to adjourn the discussion of the point. Mr. Balfour retires so prettily that loss of prestige is never spoken of in his case; but why the Chancellor of the Exchequer was not earlier consulted is beyond explanation, nor is there any explaining away the considerable tactical success of the Opposition.

Lord Rosebery's descent on Liverpool and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's counter-move on Leicester have after all precipitated a crisis—on paper. Lord Rosebery in a short neat letter to the "Times" has proclaimed the "definite separation" of himself from Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman. "I remain, therefore," he writes, "outside his tabernacle, but not, I think, in solitude". At last the position is clear. Lord Rosebery has taken up the challenge which Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman flung down with some show of ill-temper at Leicester. There are now two Liberal parties, with views distinct, even antagonistic, on the "clean slate", on Home Rule, on the war and its methods. But what is the next step? Three parties cannot very well live in the House of Commons and it would be a national disaster if the weakness of the Opposition were to be yet further increased. Meanwhile there is only one appointed leader and he is Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman; and in spite of his letter and good intentions we have yet no proof that Lord Rosebery will organise his party as a practical Opposition. There has been so much talking for so many years that we cannot, while action is still pending, believe the good intentions, any more than we believed the talk of the unity which is now definitely shattered.

The National Liberal Association has fallen from its old eminence. The meeting at Leicester was nothing but pitiable from any point of view and was deliberately used as a battle-field by the two sections of the party. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's name was received with immense enthusiasm, and most of the speakers expressed views for which there seems no other term but pro-Boer, though the word has recently been alleged to be libellous. But in spite of the atmosphere of the meeting the Liberal Imperialists were strong enough to prevent Mr. Lehmann pressing his motion that the Derby programme should be endorsed, and they managed to get a large percentage of their candidates elected. Incidentally they were charged with adopting the methods of Tammany by the payment of delegates, and the silly accusation led to some unlovely bickerings. The withdrawal of Mr. Lehmann's amendment was covered by a singularly unworthy shuffle: the Derby programme stood, it was urged, whatever happened to the amendment endorsing it. The question is: Does the National Liberal Association stand if its

committee cannot agree to endorse its own programme? In the evening Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman braced himself up to quite a vigorous speech announcing his adhesion to "mouldy programmes" and his rejection of Lord Rosebery. His vigour has been rewarded.

For the moment the facing of the remount scandal is postponed. General Truman demanded under virtual compulsion an inquiry into his conduct and capacity and as there is special provision made by which an officer may insist on such inquiry it is unreasonable of the critics of the Government to object to the military constitution of the committee appointed. Meanwhile General Truman is to retain his post, but an assessor has been appointed on the ground that General Truman will be busied with his defence. So much for General Truman; the Government will be able to postpone its defence until General Truman's case is disposed of. Then, when no personal delicacy interferes with freedom of discussion, the whole question of organisation of the Remount Department will be thrashed out. Perhaps Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman nurses secret hope of taking some inadequate vengeance on Mr. Brodrick for that matter of the deficiency of cordite. The debate in the Lords on the alleged meat scandal extracted no promise for an inquiry from the Government; but if a tenth of what is asserted is justified Lord Lansdowne's cavalierly superficial defence of the War Office cannot be ultimately accepted as adequate.

There has been much valuable information given in connexion with South Africa, of which very little notice has been taken. The Blue Book on the Concentration Camps issued on Monday contained conclusive evidence of the rapid improvement in the conditions. The mortality has been reduced by one-half since last October and a great deal of energy has been thrown into the work. The process of removal to the coast has begun and in the organisation of the camps themselves the right sort of practical improvement may be expected from the appointment of two Indian Famine Commissioners to superintend. Even the extreme sentimentalists have given Mr. Chamberlain credit for the vigorous and effective changes; but why praise of him should involve attacks on Sir Alfred Milner, who is more immediately connected with the work, it passes the power of logic to explain. The news that Pretoria is to remain the capital of the Transvaal is unexpected, but the decision is wise. It is no advantage for a Government to be in the turmoil of a city like Johannesburg. It is perhaps a sign of the times that an official reception of Dr. Leyds in Paris and the journey of the globe-trotting delegates to America have attracted no notice.

A long report from Lord Kitchener was published in the Gazette of Tuesday. It does not alter in any material way our views of the course of the war; but so sanguine an estimate from a man of Lord Kitchener's reticence is better assurance of solid and substantial progress than any we have yet received. But, though Lord Kitchener is sanguine, it may be inferred that he does not expect any definite end to the war. A certain number of irreconcilables will retire, not to the north, but to the grim country in the west and from there may trouble the police in the Cape for a long space. The report of the columns is shorter than usual and less satisfactory. In the week 17 Boers were killed, 5 wounded, 107 captured and 138 surrendered. We have experienced one mishap. Part of the 2nd Dragoons becoming detached from General Hamilton's columns were surrounded; two men and two officers were wounded and forty-six men captured.

Both the Army and the Navy Estimates have been issued. The first are considerably smaller and the latter a little larger than was generally expected. The estimated army expenditure for 1902-3 is £69,000,000 or £26,000,000 less than last year. It is satisfactory to know that the decrease is principally due to the deficiency in the expected expenditure on the war and the provision already made is sufficient to maintain the Field Force at its present strength for eight or nine months of the present financial year. The estimate for the ordinary services is much the same as last

year. Additional money is to be spent on sending more Volunteers to camp and the cost of the new Yeomanry is to be an extra £350,000, but these amounts will be saved on the Army Reserve, garrison battalion and the new Militia Reserve. When the debate comes on Mr. Brodrick may be asked some uncomfortable questions on this last head, as the saving in estimated expenditure is made on the simple plan of raising only a portion of the quota of troops promised a year ago.

The Navy Estimates are made remarkable by the unusually thorough and determined statement by the First Lord of the Admiralty. The amount asked for is £31,250,000, an increase of £380,000. Of this £9,053,000 is to be spent on reconstruction, and the assurance that all this sum is to be "earned and spent by 31 March" gives the estimate an explicit meaning which it has sometimes missed. One of Lord Selborne's assurances reads like a criticism of some of the excuses lately made for the War Office: the development of peace administration is to be on such lines as make for efficient war administration, an expression of policy which has not invariably been taken for granted. A committee with Sir Edward Grey as chairman are to consider the crucial question how the manning of the navy is to be supplied, and the establishment of a Royal Navy Reserve will also come under their consideration. It is an interesting step in the evolution of the ship that training with masts and sails has at last been definitely abandoned; but even now many authorities think the change unwise.

Two riots on the Continent have grown from small occasions to alarming proportions. At Trieste prompt action has for the moment arrested any great danger, but at Barcelona the rioters who now number some 80,000 are still dominating the situation. The first origin of the strike seems to have been some dispute in a small factory of metal-workers. This was repressed with considerable severity and the majority of the workers in the town, which is notoriously anarchic, made common cause with the metal-workers, and some neighbouring towns have since been drawn in. Churches and convents have been attacked and gutted, and continual collisions with the police and attacks on employers have resulted in many deaths among both women and men. The immediate object of the strikers is to starve out the town and they seem to have been successful in raising bread to famine prices. It can scarcely be doubted that the military will collect in sufficient force to check worse developments, but as the rioters are said to have been well supplied with arms through political organisations a considerable fight is not impossible. Martial law for the whole country is threatened and constitutional guarantees are already withdrawn in respect of Barcelona. The town has had many such experiences and in southern countries ardour for insurrection grows by indulgence.

The success of Prince Henry's visit to America might have been assured without the silly attempt on the part of some Germans to pre-date their expression of friendliness to a point before the Spanish-American war. There are ten million Germans in America burning to do honour to the Kaiser's brother, and they have helped to urge the native Americans into excesses of competitive hospitality. They are naturally a hospitable people and such a visit is an excellent instance of the good service to international relations which an amiable member of a Royal family may render. But one is a little sorry for the guest, lest he may be killed by kindness. The programme mapped out for him is more ambitious than Lord Rosebery's at Liverpool, and if he is to complete the list of entertainments and cover the distances which are projected he must temporarily become a Mycerinus: sleep is either discounted or allowed for on the Edison principle that man will soon be content with four hours at most. However Prince Henry will have had a great reception and have "done" the country as only the Americans understand the art of doing.

Recent rumours of unrest in Afghanistan are nothing more than what might have been expected and was actually foretold. Too much importance need not be

attached to them. So far as these stories proceed from foreign sources or refer to pretenders now under Russian protection, it would be safe to connect them with complications further East and West and to expect their development to follow the progress of events in China and Persia. Where they concern internal dissensions or border troubles they appear to be nothing more than the natural ferment which would follow the transfer of sovereignty and the removal of so repressive an influence as Abdur Rahman. His successor seems disposed to pose as a champion of Islam and court the support of the Mullahs. Such a policy would strengthen him against Russia but it would at the same time be a possible element of frontier disturbance on the Indian side. We may always count on having these priests ready to oppose us and stir up trouble among the tribesmen on both sides of the border. It might not be far wrong to assign to their machinations the raiding recently reported from the Khyber.

Patagonia is not a land where the average Briton can hope to find a congenial home, and it is hardly wonderful that the Welshmen who formed a colony there should be keen to repatriate themselves. Mr. Chamberlain, in his anxiety to afford them Colonial Office assistance acted under a misapprehension. They desire to settle anew in Canada, where the Colonial Secretary has no doubt they will form a prosperous and happy community. It is however impossible, as he explained, for the Colonial Office to concern itself in an emigration scheme affecting a self-governing colony. The only colonies, in the emigration to which the Imperial Government interests itself directly, are those under the control of the Colonial Secretary. Hence Mr. Chamberlain suggested that if the Welshmen desire Imperial assistance they must go to South Africa which is likely to be an Imperial charge for some time to come. Simple as this explanation is, it has been misrepresented by the cable, and Canada has been led to believe that Mr. Chamberlain has shown a preference for South Africa over Canada. On the face of it we should think that South African conditions were more likely than the Canadian to suit colonists who have been living in Patagonia. The idea that Mr. Chamberlain overlooks Canadian services during the war cannot have occurred to any responsible person in the Dominion.

The reading of the proceedings in the Court of Appeal No. 1 on Tuesday and Wednesday must have given strange searchings of heart to the men of scarlet gowns and full-bottomed wigs. Their lordships were hearing an appeal against the decision of the Divisional Court refusing a mandamus against Dr. Tristram's order in the Brighton ritual case. As judgment is reserved we reserve comments on the facts. It was however interesting to see Consistorial Court Bumble-don mercilessly overhauled for the first time since the days of Laud, and to hear the question asked "Is it law that a Bishop must appoint a Chancellor?" From the constitutional and historical point of view we should certainly like to hear their lordships on the Gore case.

On Monday before Mr. Justice Bigham the trial began of the men charged with committing extensive forgeries and frauds on the Bank of Liverpool. Goudie was charged with the forgery of all the cheques amounting to the sum of £160,000 which had been drawn by him on the account of Mr. Hudson the soap manufacturer. He pleaded guilty and went into the witness-box to give evidence as to the transactions between him, Marks the bookmaker, Mances who turned out to be a card sharper, and Burge the pugilist, with the last of whom he was charged with conspiring to defraud the Bank of the sum of £5,000. This was the charge investigated and in dealing with it the whole history of the case was disclosed. Burge found out that Goudie had been betting largely with Kelly a bookmaker of Bradford and Stiles his partner; and Goudie by threats was compelled to make bets with Marks, which he did to the amount of £91,000 in three weeks. Goudie never won and his commissions were in fact never executed, but he paid as if the losses were real and Burge, Marks and Mances

shared the proceeds. Burge was found guilty, but sentence was deferred on the two men until after the trial of Kelly and Stiles which took place on Thursday.

Kelly and Stiles were charged with conspiracy to defraud the Bank of a sum of about £74,000 and they pleaded guilty. Their exploitation of Goudie was only less heinous than that by Burge and his confederates from the absence of any compulsion on him by them to defraud the Bank; but they took full advantage of Goudie's imbecile mania for betting on a large scale, and cheated him when he happened to win, or when he ought to have won. When all the men were brought up to receive their sentences the judge inquired as to the amounts which could be saved for the Bank by the prisoners handing over the moneys in the hands of their friends. Kelly's wife and Burge's wife were ordered along with Kelly and third parties who held money for him to transfer their rights to the Bank by Saturday when the sentences are to be passed. A sum of £30,000 invested by Mances in Consols and otherwise, a sum of £15,000 left at his bank by Marks, and a sum of about £38,000 at Burge's bank had already been arrested by the Liverpool Bank. The only thing not satisfactorily cleared up still is how Goudie could have committed forgeries for such large amounts without being sooner discovered.

Before the Lords Committee on betting Sir Alfred de Rutzen stated that betting, by which he meant chiefly street-betting, caused more mischief than anything else. Two more sane and trustworthy authorities than he and Mr. Horace Smith who supported him could scarcely be found. Of course you cannot stop betting by law, nor is it easy to devise a method by which the Bishop of Hereford, to give the unhappy instance of a witness, could distinguish a welsher from the more genuine bookmaker—though perhaps some of his old pupils would trust Bishop Percival's personal perspicuity. Nevertheless £5 is an altogether ridiculous fine, and we like the humour of the convicted bookmaker who made his £5 fine up to £10 by giving Mr. Horace Smith an extra £5 for the poor-box. The law may do something by making the punishment adequate. Possibly the press by refusing publicity at any rate to fraudulent tipsters might do more, and the beginning made by the "Daily News" is at any rate courageous.

With a view to stimulate the study of nature in education an association has been formed to promote in London a "Nature study" exhibition in the summer. Prizes and certificates are to be offered to school-children of all classes for exhibits in a great variety of subjects, and the considerable expenses are to be met by subscriptions. The schedule will not be published for some weeks but the names of the committee responsible are at least an earnest that the scheme will not fall into the hands of sentimentalists. The chairman of the executive, who is an ex-minister of education in South Australia, has written a stimulating letter to the "Times" explaining the objects of the exhibition. His witness to the zeal for nature study in his own country is suggestive and the colonial exhibits should fulfil a double educational work. It is satisfactory, in view of what has happened in Epping Forest, that the uprooting of any plant is to be specially forbidden and that specimens of rare plants are not to be asked for.

Mr. Stephen Phillips would seem to be taking a leaf out of the book of Robert Montgomery, the poetaster. Macaulay tells us how Montgomery's volume was prefaced with a portrait of the poet "doing his very best to look a man of genius and sensibility". Mr. Phillips has refined on this by allowing the booksellers to hang out his likeness signboard style over their shop-fronts, supported by "Paolo" on the one side and "Ulysses" on the other. How far this exhibition of Mr. Phillips' features may help the sale of the book is a commercial calculation we are neither competent nor careful to go into. But in the name of literature (it might be irrelevant to invoke Poetry) we protest against this resort to the methods of "Lipton's markets". Is this the fine flower of log-rolling? It is

bad enough to be bored with private recitals and society advertisements of "young poets", but that nuisance at least has classical precedent with Juvenal to vouch for it. Conspicuous modesty will hardly be looked for in one who thinks him strong enough to bend the bow of Ulysses, but we did not expect so outrageous an abandonment as this betrays.

Mr. T. G. Bowles, M.P., like the German Electress, is fond of meditating on "the infinitely little". A while ago he was at mimic war with a fellow M.P. about his seat in the Chamber; and now, in tones of Tappertitian tragedy, he has been addressing a Mr. Bagge and others about this same seat in its somewhat broader aspects. The world has not been hanging on to the result with the feverish anxiety which Mr. Bowles would have it feel at this, to him no doubt, solemn crisis of the Empire. Yet a good number of people are tickled, whilst some are really concerned at the idea of Mr. Bowles disappearing from the scene at S. Stephen's. Very likely, as Mr. Chamberlain has said, Mr. Bowles does not add to the efficiency of the House. Yet is he a gay performer, seasoning many an otherwise insipid debate with the condiments of a ready wit. And he has no particularly foolish fads and affectations: he does not pose as a pro-Boer, a conscientious objector or an anti-dog-muzzler. Lynn may well be lenient to him. His want of taste in criticising his leaders is notorious, but, like Bernal Osborne, he himself is the chief sufferer from his own gibes.

We are getting rather tired of turning to the Parliamentary reports only to find the name "Mr. Norman" peppered thickly over the page. The American business is bad enough, but it might be claimed perhaps that Mr. Norman had some *locus standi* there, as the enterprising penster who acted for a daily paper as "Our Special Commissioner" in the States. But what in the world has he to do with Spion Kop and Mr. Balfour and General Buller? The long rigmarole in this matter might well have been cut down to a paragraph by the "Times" sub-editors, with the "Dear Mr. Normans" and "Dear Mr. Balfours" left out. As it is the correspondence reflects on Mr. Balfour's sense of humour.

The Bank returns of Thursday exhibit the important addition to the market borrowings of £2,124,250 and as the receipts on account of revenue are higher by £2,720,880 the market has not on balance benefited from its drawings on the central institution. The coin and bullion show an increase of £616,070, £260,000 of which came from abroad, and the active note circulation is contracted by £192,690. The resultant of the various changes in the figures is an increase in the reserve of £808,760 and a diminution in the proportion of 1'06 per cent. to 47'18 per cent. The Funds have been steady throughout the week and Consols close at a slight increase, although the volume of business has not been great; there appears to be a growing feeling that a further issue of Consols may yet be avoided.

Home rails have been weak and declines have been general, the list closing at the worst. American rails showed no marked movement until Thursday when a sharp break occurred consequent on the opinion stated to have been given by the United States Attorney-General against the legality of the incorporation of the Northern Securities Corporation; pending a decision in the Courts on this important question it is unlikely that the market will recover to a sound basis of dealing—the wild speculative operations may of course continue. The South African mining market has experienced a severe relapse and the methods of certain inside speculators, to which the set-back is attributed, would appear to call for some stringent measures to be taken by the committee of the Stock Exchange to prevent as far as possible a repetition of the incident. The remaining markets have been quiet and have presented no special feature of interest, and the week closes with a dull feeling throughout the House. Consols 94½. Bank rate 3 per cent. (6 February, 1902).

LORD ROSEBERY'S SEVEN OR EIGHT SPEECHES.

IN the confusion of the evidence it is difficult to determine the small statistical fact whether Lord Rosebery delivered six, seven, eight or nine speeches at Liverpool. But a collation of authorities makes probable the view that he spoke once on Friday night and delivered seven speeches in six places on Saturday. The other man of the hour, Mr. Chamberlain, made last week only one speech; and if Lord Rosebery wishes to challenge comparison one is compelled by the force of mathematics to grant that by this astounding tour de force in "the third greatest of Imperial cities" he has easily won the match. A comparison or contrasting of the two men, after the Plutarch manner, is natural enough at the moment. Mr. Chamberlain has acquired the constant attribute "pushful", and Lord Rosebery, when he described Lord Shelburne, in his little book on Pitt, as one of the suppressed characters in English history, had no wish to write his own epitaph. Lord Rosebery will be no Lord Shelburne if speaking can prevent the comparison. Another attribute held in common between the two men is an else unparalleled success in catching the breath of popular favour. Only of the two the breath matters less to Mr. Chamberlain; he might steam ahead without it, while Lord Rosebery robbed of plaudits is a boat becalmed, a yet more sorry spectacle than the driver of the lonely furrow. But the sailing boat is still the more beautiful vessel. Large as Mr. Chamberlain is, linking the Empire together as a steamship should, he is singularly scant of the willowy grace which always gives charm to Lord Rosebery's public appearances. Even his customary attitude is gracefully suggestive of his style; and we are told that no fewer than six tables had to be manufactured of an exact altitude, in order to lend Lord Rosebery's elbow the true familiar House of Lords angle, as it were the real Grecian bend. Mr. Chamberlain from time to time lapses into doubtful taste. He cannot always

"veil

His want in forms for fashion's sake".

Lord Rosebery's good taste is constant—perhaps because it has seldom to conflict with too stubborn convictions.

Certainly Mr. Chamberlain could not have delivered eight or even six speeches; he would not have the necessary metaphors. At each separate effort Lord Rosebery's eclectic sprightliness supplied him with fresh illustrations: at the Stock Exchange where he spoke as the Derby winner; at the Corn Exchange where he gave a pretty turn even to agricultural depression; at the Exchange news-room where he took the part of a cricketer's father; at the Cotton Exchange and the several meals where he deviated into seriousness, even politics. Let no one belittle the feat. No woman much less man ever before covered so many subjects at such length and in such short time, nor approached the feat of so bewildering the reporters that they were not clear as to where one speech ended and the next began. We might share in the enthusiasm of Liverpool if Lord Rosebery had not reasserted his claim to be a serious leader of a serious party; but such glib omniscience of the elements of all subjects is not paraded by a steadfast statesman coincidentally with preparation for a grave campaign. It is one thing to be summoned from bowls to battle; it is another to play skittles instead of fighting. Lord Rosebery would have been wiser to take counsel or ask some candid friend first to prune his periods. Even a neighbour, eminently his next-door neighbour in Berkeley Square, could have given him the needful help in the art of compression—of boiling down his stuff before putting it on the market. There were hopes for Lord Rosebery after Chesterfield, but no number of new metaphors justifies an old sermon. One is weary of Lord Rosebery as the promising young man; the part of the hopeful sprig does not quite become the man who was Premier seven years ago, has won the Derby and long since earned great municipal fame in London—and at Epsom.

Since Chesterfield, in spite of innumerable opportunities offered by the Government, Lord Rosebery has been marking time. He advanced not a single step in his Liverpool utterances unless it was in the direction of disclaiming the Irish Party. Mr. Redmond has made a more or less new demand for a separate Irish Parliament and this idea very properly fills Lord Rosebery, the father of Imperial Federation, with horror. He showed even some political courage in describing Home Rule as "dead and buried" and talking of "mouldy programmes" as a sequel to his eulogy of Mr. Gladstone. But this candour on Mr. Redmond's part was quite unnecessary to convince other politicians of the essential ill patriotism of the Irish. Lord Rosebery in short has come into line with the Unionists after a delay of some fifteen years, and politically he must be put among the characters whom Theophrastus described as late-learners. But he takes and has been given none the less credit for his conviction that it has been thrust down his throat. He will acquire other convictions by the same process. A man who makes as many and as long speeches as Lord Rosebery needs as good a memory as the proverbial liar. Different sections of the party are accepting and using different bits of his different speeches. The National Liberal Association have already fastened on him the one gross mistake he made in criticism. They have used his name, for what it is worth, to back their protest against unconditional surrender; but in the same breath Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman rejected not without scorn his schoolmaster's advice on the value of a clean slate. He too is growing tired of Lord Rosebery. The hopeful young man is deferring hope so long that he will soon make even his most heartfelt admirers sick. We admire Lord Rosebery, his taste, his oratory, his freshness, his patriotism, his fine gentility; but a dilettante can share in all these qualities. It was not unnatural on the part of the men of Liverpool to cheer Lord Rosebery for his boast that "we of the common-sense party" put our country before all else. But the comparison we made a year ago still applies: Lord Rosebery must expect the workers, the men who have done something, to feel towards the author of such excellent sentiments as Hotspur felt on the field of battle when to him breathless and faint, leaning upon his sword

"Came there a certain Lord, neat and trimly dressed".
The Liberal party cannot be expected to enjoy the advice that

—"The sovereignst thing on earth
Was Parmaceti for an inward bruise".

Even the public will weary of Lord Rosebery if he continues content with cultured generalities about the duty of being in tune with "the Spirit of the Age", or himself so glib, smoothly and in "holiday and lady terms" labels greater men as "mealy mouthed" talkers. The Parmaceti, the pouncet-box, the paraphernalia of the popinjay are better away, the very metaphors grow irritating. Soon we shall begin to look on Lord Rosebery as himself a sort of metaphor, a trope, a thing used, as the dictionaries say, in a sense which does not properly belong to it, a litterateur expressed in terms of politics.

MORE JOURNALISM THAN DIPLOMACY.

WE had last week to congratulate the Government on the ingenuity with which they had kept the secret of the treaty with Japan. For once our diplomacy seemed to have divorced itself from the press, but in revenge the unsavoury controversy over the conduct of the Great Powers at the commencement of the Spanish-American War serves to remind us of the close connexion that prevails between the new diplomacy and the newest journalism. We do not hesitate to express our belief that this episode has been one of the least creditable in the not very creditable record of our recent dealings with the United States. But if we find fault with the nature of the Government's proceedings we have none to find with their methods. Who more suitable than a journalist as the recipient of Lord Cranborne's confidences? Mr. Norman, not only from

his connexion with the United States, but also from his experience as interviewer and special correspondent, was in every way fitted for the part he undertook. We do not blame the member for Wolverhampton for adopting this facile method of self-advertisement. It is the Foreign Office that we blame for permitting its representative to reply to him.

We will not reiterate the arguments we employed with regard to the original indiscretion. It need only be pointed out how unfortunately the course of events has justified the criticisms then made. We did not understand then, and we still less understand now, why various journalists in various positions who were in search of an advertisement or "copy" have been permitted to plunge our Government into a fresh and entirely gratuitous quarrel with Germany. Apart altogether from the deplorable consequences of this kind of slanging-match, carried on by newspapers on behalf of their principals, in this case, regrettably, the Foreign Ministers of great Powers, we must protest against the humiliating position in which it has placed this country. Not only the Under-Secretary of State but his Majesty's Ambassador takes part in the ignoble controversy, and the latter emerges in a somewhat battered condition from the fray in which he should never have condescended to participate. When the combatants seemed inclined to desist of their own accord from the unseemly wrangle we had a message from New York telling us that "American opinion will not be satisfied without further elucidation of this incident from both parties". We can quite understand that American opinion wants quite as much of this kind of thing as it can get. What indeed could be more agreeable to the patriotic citizen of any country than to see a scramble going on among other Great Powers to demonstrate that each in turn was the true friend and had never wished to be anything else, to see not merely foreign newspapers pulling one another to pieces in the quarrel but the statesmen of one country actually joining in the fray, and having their course apparently dictated to them by special correspondents.

England has only herself to blame for this most unseemly imbroglio. Unfortunately—to use the words of a Berlin newspaper—"the discussion was placed upon the orders of the day by the English"; and it might have gone on to say that when the ex-correspondent within the House seemed to want encouragement it was supplied from the United States by a correspondent (by no means ex-) with the significant comment "it is expected that questions will be asked about it this evening in the House of Commons". When the questions have been asked and answered, we are informed, through the same journalistic medium, that the American Government adheres to its previous attitude and still gives us credit for having stood by them in a moment when friendship was valuable. We fear the British public may not be so grateful for this gracious patronage from the New York correspondent of the "Times" as they ought to be, but it is pitiable that the Government should have exposed themselves to it. There was no conceivable reason why they should have provoked a renewal of so unprofitable a controversy, no great emergency called for it, and to the Germans it only and very naturally appeared like an ill-natured attempt by a jealous rival to spoil the effect of Prince Henry's approaching visit to America. We do not believe for a moment that our Government had a hand in this despicable game but we sincerely regret that they allowed themselves to be captured so easily and made tools of. As for the Opposition, they lost a great opportunity. They lose so many that one more or less is perhaps hardly worth notice, but it is strange indeed that no leading member on their front bench should have risen to protest against the curious and unwarrantable breaches of diplomatic etiquette which have been committed throughout this affair. They would have done a service to statesmanship if they had thought fit to move the adjournment of the House.

Nobody comes well out of this affair, though we are inclined to hold that Lord Pauncefoot was in the right rather than our Government when he joined with the Ambassadors of the other Powers in suggesting the

presentation of a friendly note to President McKinley after the reception of the final offer of Spain. For this he was only snubbed by our Foreign Office, more philo-American than the Ambassador himself! Lord Pauncefoot will hardly be grateful to the special correspondent who constitutes himself his advocate or to the Government which allows itself to be "drawn" in this over-simple fashion; nor indeed will the thinking inhabitants of the United States, when they consider the whole controversy, for of all the reputations which have suffered that of the late President McKinley has suffered the most. We have it now proved on indisputable authority that, before war was declared or hostilities commenced, Spain had actually sent an offer to Washington to concede all the American demands regarding Cuba save one, that this fact was known to the President and known to the Ambassadors of the Powers but was never communicated to the Senate or to any representatives of the American people. Mr. Smalley tells us that Mr. McKinley "did not know what effect this might have had on the American people". Clearly it could not have made them more bellicose for they were at the time boiling over with warlike zeal. The President must then have thought that it might have made them more peaceful and preferred to take the responsibility of preventing a consummation he did not wish. We have always taken a strong view of the late President's conduct before the war against Spain, holding that he should have stood up more manfully against the tide of aggressive sentiment, but we never dreamed of imputing to him so direct a responsibility for the conflict. We have even refused to credit the rumours which we were reluctant to believe. But now it is openly confessed by the gentleman who once hymned Mr. McKinley's re-election in almost lyric strains that the exploit of the Ems telegram has had a very close analogy in recent days, and that another, without the excuse of Bismarck, who after all had to make a nation, but from pure ambition and to please his supporters, actually suppressed an opponent's offers which might have led to peace. There are more ways than one of earning the title of "Mehrer des Reichs"!

Every Bismarck, we may suppose, has his Busch, though Buschs like Bismarcks vary in quality. It is strange how history reproduces itself in masquerade. Perhaps after the recent revelations the American statesman comes out of it the worst. But the whole incident only emphasises one's dislike of the incursion of journalism into diplomatic fields and one's regret that English statesmen should allow themselves to be involved in an international episode of so deplorable a character.

LORD BALFOUR'S CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTIONS.

READERS of the SATURDAY REVIEW must have followed the vaccination debate in the House of Lords this week with deep interest, and not a little satisfaction. Lord Newton made a temperate but extremely cogent presentation of the case for immediate revocation of the license conferred on the "conscientious objector" by the last Vaccination Act. It is unnecessary to recapitulate his arguments, as, from time to time, we have stated our views in these columns at considerable length. We did not expect, and we do not suppose that Lord Newton expected, the Government to make a sudden volte-face, don the white sheet of penance and introduce an amending Act. The party system, whatever may be its merits, is not favourable to the sudden abandonment of a mistaken policy, although that is the keynote of sound business. A "bull" on the Stock Exchange will turn round and become a "bear" at a moment's notice; any great business corporation will drop an unsuccessful venture with the utmost celerity and any strong man, in the ordinary affairs of life, thinks nothing of continuity but much of taking prompt advantage of unfortunate experience. But the party system moves slowly, and it is in the official defence of the old that the germs of the new find their most favourable nidus. It was useful to have from the

speakers on both sides deliberate declarations of their confidence in the efficacy of vaccination, and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who made the official defence of the Government, was at pains to leave no shadow of doubt as to what he thought of the "conscientious objector".

The main argument of the Government defence is extremely promising for the future. The Act, we were reminded, is an experimental measure with a limited duration. The House was asked to throw out Lord Newton's suggestion because, at the most, its adoption would shorten only by a year the license of the conscientious objector. The present time is to be taken as a period of experiment and of education, and it was made plain that the Government hope to find that, within the period of their Act, the objection to vaccination will die out. We quite agree that there is something to be said for this point of view, especially if, as seems to be the case, the Local Government Board is to spare no pains to spread knowledge of the advantages of the modern methods of preparing and inoculating the lymph. A most promising sign of the confidence now felt in modern methods is, that in London at the present time, many persons of all classes have chosen the public vaccinators in preference to private practitioners. The prevailing epidemic, too, is bringing with it a series of lessons that will do much to educate the conscientious objector out of his dangerous folly. A letter in the "Times" of Thursday, from the medical superintendent of the Mile-End Infirmary, puts one of these lessons in a startling fashion. In the last few weeks smallpox has effected an entrance to that large institution and has claimed many victims. Forty nurses and two matrons in the institution were in direct contact with the disease. Of these, thirty-one had been re-vaccinated before the outbreak, but none of them more than two years before it. Four more were re-vaccinated immediately after the outbreak; and, of these thirty-five, none took the disease. The remaining seven all took the disease. Of the seven, three had not been re-vaccinated; the other four were re-vaccinated, but within the incubation period of the disease, that is, after they had been infected with the contagion. If the epidemic spread and continue in London, and if it reach many of the large towns in England, we do not doubt that, within the period of the existing Act, the process of education will be complete, and the "conscientious objectors" will be recovered from smallpox, dead from smallpox, or converted to vaccination.

If, however, the voice of smallpox itself shall not have silenced the conscientious objector by the end of 1903, what is to be done? Lord Balfour repeated the well-known arguments against compulsion. The penal clauses are difficult to administer and many persons have a strong objection to Acts turning into crimes conduct not otherwise regarded as criminal. Mr. Balfour, it is true, in introducing one of the Irish Acts, made short work of such objection. No doubt the conduct made criminal by the Irish Coercion Acts was united by a very plain link with what the most rudimentary conscience would regard as crime, and it is difficult, though getting less difficult, to bring home to the ordinary mind that refusal to be re-vaccinated or vaccinated is a very short step from the manifest crime of helping to infect a neighbour with smallpox. Were it thoroughly understood that every unvaccinated person were selfishly throwing on the community the vast burden of upholding the necessary smallpox hospitals, and criminally running the risk of bringing infection on his neighbour, there would be little difficulty in accepting the principle of compulsion. But far short of such a changed state of public opinion, the Muzzling Orders or the Education Acts furnish ample precedents for compulsion enforced by penalties. Parents who neglect the education of their children can be punished by law, and, while such punishment is not enforced in every case or to the fullest possible extent, its existence gives the needed additional stimulus to many lazy or careless parents. A compulsory clause in a Vaccination Act, applied on similar lines, would produce a similar result. Its existence would just turn the scale in a large number

of cases and so would reduce the number of the unvaccinated to a considerable extent. The question of the form of the penalty in cases where it is necessary to prosecute is not of much importance, and the provisions of the old Act amended to apply to re-vaccination as well as to primary vaccination would suffice. But the Act should be framed so that a civil action for damages would lie when smallpox had been spread by neglect of vaccination. If an unvaccinated person become a centre of the disease, then the community in which he lives or individuals who have suffered by being brought in contact with him directly or indirectly, should be able to claim and obtain whatever damages he is able to pay. Similarly, if a shopkeeper, manufacturer, or other employer of labour choose to employ unvaccinated persons, then, when cases of the disease can be tracked back to his establishment, he should have to pay damages to the victims, precisely in the same way as he would have to pay were he to cause loss of health or of life by any other act of carelessness on the part of his staff. If persons choose to run risks for their neighbours or customers, it is only right that they should be responsible. The defence by Lord Balfour of Burleigh of the present Act has made it plain that it is not to be regarded as final, or as the result of a settled policy; in the year or two which the Act has still to run, every possible means must be employed to aid the Government in the re-education of public opinion and so to strengthen the hands of whatever party may then be in power, to stop once for all the legalised presence among us of harbourers of smallpox.

THE INDIAN REMOUNTS REPORT.

THE report on the Horse and Mule Breeding Commission assembled by order of the Government of India in October 1900 has just been issued and will be read just now, when the remounts question is engaging so much attention, with a special interest. We have on more than one occasion drawn attention to the horse supply of India, and we felt it a duty some years ago to animadvert very strongly on the fatal policy which introduced hackney sires into that country. It is with no sense of "Schadenfreude" that we now find all we had then to say amply justified, and our severest strictures more than borne out by actual results. The unfortunate part of the matter is however that there are still forty-three of the soft-boned under-bred brutes that figure as hackneys at large in India propagating their species and adulterating the equine population of the country. But we learn that good sense has at length triumphed even at this cost, and that no more such sires are to be provided. General T. B. Tyler, who was president of the commission, has been long known to us as a sound horse-master and authority on horseflesh, a practical man with years of experience in the artillery; and the selection of so capable a president, even though it must have been difficult to spare him from his duties of Inspector-General of Artillery, is an example of how such things should be done. The name of General Elliot, Inspector-General of Cavalry, on the commission, was another assurance of success, and, though he was called away to South Africa before its labours were complete, he did not leave until his presence had made itself felt. The commission visited all the remount depôts, the Government farm at Hissar, and all the principal breeding districts in India. Ten thousand horses, mules, and donkeys were inspected. The fairs of Ahmednagar, Jacobabad, Jellalabad, Sibi, Sikapur, and Bulanashar were visited. Evidence was obtained verbally from all persons interested in the subject, and questions on points where information was desired were circulated in India amongst civil and military officers, native chiefs, breeders and dealers native and European. A great quantity of evidence collected in this way has been carefully sifted, and a clear insight into the present situation placed before the public.

The commission, owing to the appointment of General Tyler to the Artillery Rearmament Committee at home, was forced to finish its labours in England: a circumstance which we can only regard as conferring on its conclusions an additional value. Amongst other matters

the vexed question of hunter-sires was thoroughly gone into in England, and some very valuable evidence from hackney-breeders has been received, which tends to corroborate the opinion already formed in India as to the unsuitability of hackneys for the propagation of riding-horses. The chief recommendations of the commission may be gathered from the following brief summary.

The continual friction between the Remount and Civil Veterinary Departments, which at present exists, has been recognised as most detrimental to Government interests. Cattle-breeding, to which the Civil Veterinary Department should devote considerable attention, has been more or less neglected. Therefore the commission now recommend the abolition of this dual control, and the formation of an Imperial Stud Department to carry on the duties connected with finding remounts for the army, and breeding mules and horses. It is stated that the change—which we regard as a most salutary one—will involve little, if any, increased cost to the Government. The formation of a certain number of studs for breeding horses, and two small studs for breeding donkeys are next recommended. It is stated that the primary object of these studs will be to breed stallions to meet the requirements of diffused breeding. Only about 5 per cent. of the youngsters in any one year will be good enough to keep for breeding purposes; the remainder will be available for issue as remounts to cavalry, while some may have sufficient substance to make artillery remounts. It is estimated that the donkey studs will prove a great gain to Government, as the stallions thus produced will save the expense of buying costly foreign donkeys as at present. A "Crown" breed of Indian horses with the best blood of the turf in their veins will in course of time appear.

Another innovation which is suggested is that remount Australian and Arab horses should be sent direct from the ship to batteries and regiments. Thus room will be made in the existing depôts, and it will become possible to convert two of these into studs. In this way no extra charge for new buildings need be incurred, and a small reduction of establishment will become possible. The commission further point out that the present diffused system of breeding needs remodelling and that breeding should only be carried on in districts favourable to the purpose. In some localities there is a natural instinct for horse-breeding amongst the people, a factor of no small importance in a country such as India, where tradition and custom have so great an influence in the affairs of life. Mule-breeding should also be pushed not only where it is at present carried on but in localities where the present brood mares are not of such a stamp as may be expected to produce remount horses, and where mule rather than horse breeding will therefore be most profitable. Grants of lands in the Chaj Doab and other canal lands, on the condition that brood mares for either horses or mules shall be provided, are also suggested, the Government to have a lien on all the young stock up to twelve months of age. Circle officers would superintend the breeding operations, and it is hoped that thus a valuable reserve will be formed in the country. Then tracts of land as runs for young stock are to be acquired, and the purchase of such stock at an early age is to become a feature of our Indian remount system. It is thought that thus animals will be developed into remounts suitable for army purposes, and that the vast variety of the demand will obviate the risk of many "misfits" being finally left on hand, after the young stock have been classified at three years old. This system of runs is to be pushed so far as to allow every Indian native cavalry regiment to have its run, where the young stock it purchases may be kept until old enough to take their places in the ranks.

What strikes one about this report is its comprehensiveness and broadness. The facts are faced squarely in a big, liberal spirit. There is no tinkering of existing institutions, no petty peddling and fear of responsibility. The result is a harmonious scheme, well-thought-out, in which all the parts dovetail together, and there is consequently no waste. The expense involved is so trifling as not to be worthy of consideration where such issues are at stake, and in

course of time the superiority of the results attained would earn considerable profits. But we would urge that such a scheme as this must either be carried out in its entirety as devised by the experts who have drawn it up, or left alone. It is fatal to begin to alter an architect's design. It must stand or fall as the brain of its author gave it shape. The project before us embraces several parts all of which hang on one another. If given a thorough trial in its complete form, it will in all probability be crowned with success. But half measures and partial adoption will wreck it as surely as they wreck every other scheme conceived with the same courage and the same wide scope. Clearly the commission have been actuated by a desire to make as few changes as possible, and to make what is in existence serve its turn. Their proposals are essentially a development of a situation at present in existence. As the commission has very properly pointed out, it is most desirable that a continuity of policy be determined on and adhered to in the future. In this way only can their scheme be given a fair chance. Time is necessary fully to develop all its bearings, to bring forward its merits, to show where amendment may be necessary: but let the amendments come after experience and not before. That we must take drastic and vigorous action is certain. Otherwise the time will soon be upon us when India, thrown on her own resources for horses, will find that she has no reserve or supply in the country.

THE EMPIRE'S FOOD-PRODUCING CAPACITY.

LAST week we showed that our annual supplies of sea-borne food, on the average of the past three years, have included 98,250,000 cwts. of wheat; 19,880,000 cwts. of meat; 125,870,000 cwts. of milk in all forms, except fresh milk and cream; and 101,620,000 cwts. of feeding grains other than wheat. A percentage analysis of the proportions of these quantities contributed by British Colonies and Possessions and by foreign countries gives the following results.

	Canada.	Austral- asia.	India.	United States.	Other Countries.
Wheat ...	8.0	5.0	4.0	63.0	20.0
Meat ...	6.0	14.0	—	60.0	20.0
Milk ...	17.0	10.0	—	7.0	66.0
Grains other than Wheat }	6.0	—	0.5	45.0	48.5

It will be noticed that, among the purveyors of food to this country, the United States alone is to be credited with consignments representing 60 per cent. of our total annual imports of wheat and of meat and 45 per cent. of feeding grain. British Colonies and Possessions have furnished 17 per cent. of the wheat, 20 per cent. of the meat, and 27 per cent. of the milk imported yearly. The large proportion of the last-named article attributed to "Other Countries" is accounted for by the shipments of butter from Denmark and other countries in Europe. And in the case of "grains other than wheat", the contribution from "Other Countries" is swollen by shipments of barley and oats from Eastern Europe. Of the other principal foodstuffs referred to in our last issue—oil-cake and hay—about 33 per cent. of the year's imports came from the United States while our own colonies furnished about 4 per cent. of the cake and 12 per cent. of the hay.

The total value of the average net yearly imports of the articles of food enumerated above is approximately £135,000,000. Barely one-sixth of this sum, or £22,000,000, represents expenditure on the produce of the British Empire. Over £60,000,000 is accounted for by the products of the United States, and the remaining £53,000,000 by those of European and South American countries.

Canada now holds the foremost place among the British Colonies and Possessions contributing to the food-supply of the mother-country. The value of the yearly consignments from Canada to our shores has been upwards of £12,000,000 for cargoes—equivalent to 8 per cent. of our entire importation of wheat, 6 per cent. of the meat, 17 per cent. of the milk, 6 per cent. of the feeding-grains, and 12 per cent. of the

hay. There can be little doubt that these proportions could be considerably increased when it is remembered that there are immense tracts of land favourable to the pursuit of agriculture not yet settled and developed in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, where it is estimated that only 8 million acres are at present occupied by farms and ranches out of a total superficies of 239 million acres. This region embraces, it is true, a large semi-arid area in Southern Alberta and Assiniboia, but it also embraces the fertile valley of the Red River, the greater part of which has yet to be brought under the plough.

At the census of 1891 there were 2,700,000 acres under wheat in Canada, 2,200,000 acres lying in Ontario and Manitoba. The area devoted to this cereal in these two provinces, for which alone annual statistics are available, has since been enlarged to 2,900,000 acres yielding, in an average season, about 26,000,000 cwts. of grain. This expansion has taken place mainly in Manitoba, where there is estimated to be four million acres of some of the best land for wheat-growing in the world, though the area under all crops in the province does not much exceed two million acres of which not more than three-fourths is devoted to wheat. It is held, too, by competent authorities that stock-raising and dairying, which are already well established in the older provinces, are capable of great expansion on the natural pastures of these newly settled territories. Besides the present capacity of the Dominion to produce meat for export must not be gauged solely by the quantities consigned to British ports, since in recent years nearly 90,000 cattle and 300,000 sheep from Canadian ranches have been exported annually to the United States. On the whole, therefore, there is not much optimism in the view that, with prices sufficiently good to encourage the development of cheap means of transport and the settlement of the western territories, Canada could in a short time treble her present production of food for export.

To the Commonwealth and New Zealand we are indebted for about 5 per cent. of the wheat, 14 per cent. of the meat, and 10 per cent. of the milk received at our ports annually. The average total value of the consignments of these commodities from the Antipodes has been about £9,600,000 per annum in the past three years, of which more than half is accounted for by frozen mutton and beef. Australasia has been, hitherto, mainly a pastoral country, but a diversified system of agriculture is becoming more and more prominent in New Zealand; while on the mainland this change is chiefly manifested in the direction of the cultivation of wheat. Victoria and South Australia contain about two-thirds of the entire Australasian acreage (5,800,000 acres) of the staple cereal, while New South Wales ranks next with 1,300,000 acres. In New Zealand about 400,000 acres of wheat are grown, but in this colony the rearing of fat sheep for the frozen mutton trade has been accompanied by the cultivation of considerable quantities of oats, roots and artificial grasses. Relatively to the size of her flocks (36,000,000 sheep) New South Wales exports remarkably small quantities of mutton, as the sheep (principally merinos) are kept mainly for their fleeces and the carcasses are largely converted into tallow for want of a more profitable method of disposal. It is maintained, however, by official experts that the substitution of cross-breeds for merinos and the provision of adequate cold storage will bring about a considerable increase in the shipments of mutton from Sydney, if prices improve.

As regards wheat the exports from Australasian ports consist almost exclusively of the surplus from the fields of Victoria, South Australia, and New Zealand. In Victoria wheat is grown on about two million acres, but it has been estimated that over forty million acres of land in the colony could be put under this crop, and that satisfactory yields could be obtained in four out of five years even on the arid soils of the Mallee. The available area of land suitable for wheat in New South Wales is officially stated at between twenty and twenty-five million acres. In Queensland, too, it is said by the authorities, there are millions of acres of fertile soil on the Darling Downs profitlessly employed in supporting less than one sheep to the acre, pending a remunerative demand for wheat. Within

the boundaries of the three mainland colonies we have mentioned and excluding the large areas awaiting cultivation in South Australia and Western Australia, there is, according to official estimates, available more than sufficient land, even at the low average yield of eight bushels per acre, to meet our present demand for wheat and other grains.

India has contributed only 3,864,000 cwts., or about 4 per cent. of our average yearly imports of wheat during the past three years, the quantity having been exceptionally small owing to the famine of 1899-1900. As much as ten times this quantity was shipped from Indian ports in 1892-93, but since that year there has been a noticeable shrinkage in these exports owing partly to deficient harvests and partly to the fall in prices. Apart from the influence of famine years, agriculture in India continues to make steady progress. The breadth of land under crops has extended and the numbers of domestic live stock have increased. At the present time the productive area of British India is about 225 million acres, and of this surface approximately 182 million acres is devoted to the production of food grains. In considering the question of the possible extension of this area it must be remembered, in the first place, that a large portion of the cultivated land will produce more than one crop in twelve months, and secondly that there exists a cultivable waste area, other than fallow, of over 100 million acres. The extension of double cropping depends upon the facilities for artificial irrigation, and to this agency also we must look for any great extension of the area of cultivated land. According to a statement issued in 1893 by the Revenue and Agricultural Department, good cultivation, assisted by irrigation and manure, may, in India, even on land originally poor in quality, secure a return of 30 bushels of grain per acre whereas the present average yield is about 10 bushels. As a general statement it may be accepted that, as canal-irrigation advances, there will be in India an extension of the cultivated surface as well as a greater production per unit of area on land already under crop. But there is not likely to be much expansion of the wheat acreage in the absence of the stimulus of higher prices in Europe and reduced costs of transport. Given these conditions, there is little doubt that, except in seasons of drought, India could maintain an average yearly export of at least as much wheat as she exported in 1893-94 when her total shipments represented about one-third of our present total importation from all sources.

Cape Colony and Natal do not yet produce sufficient grain to meet the needs of their growing population, but there is good ground for the belief that with the increase of farming, and the adoption of more rational methods of cultivation, the requirements of the inhabitants could be more than satisfied by the home agriculture. It is also held by some authorities that there is a great future for agriculture in the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal.

THE FEMININE IN LIFE.*

THERE is a vulgar and commonplace, and there is also a sentimental, and even transcendental, rendering of the maxim or witticism "*Cherchez la femme*". It may be the motif of the ordinary novel of plot and intrigue, or the banal cynicism of smoke-room gossip, or in the form of artistic presentations of woman nature such as we find in Lady Macbeth, Cleopatra, Imogen or Beatrice, in Mrs. Rawdon Crawley, in Hetty Sorrel or Diana of the Crossways, it may remind us that the highest powers of creative and imaginative genius have been devoted to the quest. To find the woman and portray her as a real live personage, a creature of flesh and blood, with a mind and heart vital in all their functions, has been taken as the highest achievement of literature, and the painting or carving of forms expressive at once of feminine physical, intellectual and spiritual qualities has been considered the most subtle incarnation of

pictorial and plastic art. The greatness of a writer is almost to be measured, we may say, by our being able to quote his heroines as worthy to rank with his heroes. We have a qualm about Milton when we think that on that throne of state which far outshone the wealth of Ormuz or of Ind Satan enthroned sat without a consort worthy of his own and the poet's genius. But there is this at least to be said for Milton that though he unpardonably neglected the opportunity to give us a great study of a woman fresh from the hand of her Maker, barring one exquisite description, he fixed a particular view of the woman question as firmly in the popular mind, as he did the common notion of hell. It was not new of course. Without mentioning S. Paul we may go back at least as far as the poet who created Alcestis, who heard the dreadful voice of Charon urging her to hasten on that premature voyage which she was about to take in order to save her husband from a fate to which modern readers would abandon him quite cheerfully. Admetus and Milton we fancy had many views in common as to the proper virtues and duties of their "espoused saints" and it is remarkable how almost all men everywhere, at every period of the world's history, except in perhaps the last ten years of the nineteenth century in a little bit of Europe and some portions of the continent of America, chiefly in the neighbourhood of Boston and Chicago, have agreed with them. More remarkable still all the "nice" women, nice in the eyes of other women that is, have agreed with the men, and performed suttee in some form or other, with a high-toned sense of propriety and what was expected of them that has always sustained the feminine heart in all its sufferings.

Very much the same views appear to have actuated the females of other species with the exception of bees and spiders, and one or two other instances. Essentially that is. It is hardly possible to say whether the feminine vanity of being more correct than other people, or the unthinking observance of custom and tradition and mere acquiescence in things as they are, especially of rules laid down by the males because they wished their females to be "just so", have been as potent amongst other species as they have been in the human. Self-sacrifice, partly forced on them by nature as mothers, or through lack of strength and vitality to second their egoism as they have seconded man's, has undoubtedly been the law for women. They have accepted slavery and spent an enormous amount of time in polishing their chains and hugging them. Slavery seems a harsh word, and is not in fact to be taken legally and literally, but on the whole if economic dependence, legal and social restrictions, repression of individuality and subordination, are considered it is hardly too extreme a statement of the facts. The economic conditions have changed very little for women. They are still dependent and if engaged in labour outside the house are only semi-independent. Their condition raises so many serious questions that in a book published in Germany "*The Woman Question*" which we reviewed recently, it is said that capitalism rests on woman's labour and is destroying society in consequence. When women take any interest in the larger matters affecting themselves, as, for example, Mrs. Stetson or Laura Marholm do, they either claim for women equal economic rights with men as the former does, or, as the latter, they anathematise the whole modern movement of women's emancipation through economic and political independence, which can never, they hold, issue in the independence of their personalities and the full expansion of their nature as women. But women have hardly succeeded in making themselves intelligible, at least to men, as to their meaning of what Laura Marholm calls the "*Psychology of Woman*". It is something based on transcendental views of the maternal and emotional capacities of women, their importance to the race and the fact that in society, as it is at present, these capacities are hindered free expansion and expression.

As far as it can be put in the crude language of men it seems to be a claim for a condition of society where woman shall be released from economic dependence on the individual man, and be free in whatever direction

* "*The Art of Life*." By R. De Maulde La Clavière. Translated by George Herbert Ely. London: Sonnenschein. 1902. 6s.

her ideal nature as woman and mother shall lead her to impress her ideals on society. However much the views expressed by these two women differ, they resemble each other in the one fact of rebellion against the subordinate position that women have been forced into in their relations with men; and there is according to them a golden age in the far-off past when women were independent of men, who left the care of the household and of family life entirely to their women. In consequence civilization received its first start and women invented the arts which have humanised life. There is probably some sort of prehistoric proof of this, and that subsequent history was an usurpation by man of woman's kingdom, and a reduction of her by the right of the conqueror to the position of domestic slavery. The woman's movement assumes the appearance therefore of an attempt to restore at least in some measure the old dynasty to its original power and influence. It is part of the case of the women who rebel against this servitude that the mental, moral, and physical inferiorities of women, which cynical and sneering men have been bitter or merry over according to their moods from time immemorial, are its natural results. Women have become the echo of men, becoming thereby less morally and intellectually responsible creatures than their models, just as slaves adapt and lend themselves to the vices of their masters in order to win favour and exercise influence. The tradition only remains of a higher standard of morality, of greater delicacy, of less selfishness and egoism, of greater idealism amongst women than men. It does not represent an actual fact. In all things of importance women accept the standard of men; they must conform to it to retain their influence and to obtain whatever they may fancy for their pleasure and comfort. When corrupt influences are abroad which, in the opinion of stern moralists, are injuring society and lowering the standards of virtue and morality, then if they are not introduced by woman's levity and love of excitement they are facilely adopted by her without resistance. The possession of money becomes of exaggerated importance in men's eyes because it enables them to capture women through their social ambitions, their love of extravagance, of luxurious display, and of material pleasures. Literature and art become common, trivial, second-rate because women's standard has been debased and, as women form the larger public which reads novels and goes to theatres, they have to be catered for by authors and dramatists. We may allow that this corruption is of the best element in human society, but the corruption of the best is the worst, as the old proverb has it.

We have been putting the case of the women who have written of woman's actual influence on life as an argument for an alteration, whatever that may be, in their present position, in order that this influence may become sounder and such as they believe women have been by their nature intended to exercise. When a man is an adorer of women, and at the same time conscious of the case that can be made against woman, and is also the author of "The Art of Life" is, the writer of that fascinating book "The Women of the Renaissance", we may expect from him a charming book, if he undertakes delicately to address women on their place and their duties in the general scheme of things. This he does in "The Art of Life". But we should speak of M. De Maulde La Clavière's audience as ladies rather than women, according to the distinction Balzac made in his "Physiologie du Mariage". He addresses them in the mixed language of mysticism and gallantry which a mediæval poet might have used in the gardens of a palace while common life, and the plague, lay outside in the distant city; or as an accomplished confessor might speak to them of the beauties of personal character, of an intellect cultivated indeed but not too educated, of the personal sacrifices which the family and the husband demand in the interests of society, and the spiritual discipline of the woman herself. To him as to other writers concerning women their lot is tragic; its only triumph is through the martyrdom of self-sacrifice. That is woman's career inevitably fixed for her if she is to win spiritual or moral progress for herself and to elevate instead of degrading society. So might any husband,

if he were able, speak to any wife, with all the old egoism that has not yet come to see anything but a problem within the four walls of the dwelling-house in the relations of a man to a woman. Will women, and especially the women who are neither wives nor ladies, accept M. De Maulde's views "through the prism of beautiful things" as a final statement of their rights and duties in life? And moreover we would ask M. De Maulde if man has not some share in the martyrdom of self-sacrifice by which the world is redeemed. Egoism and self-sacrifice are not altogether so discriminated by sex as feminist writers assume.

RAEBURN.*

THIS volume, in its final shape, is uniform with the "Gainsborough" and "Reynolds" of Sir Walter Armstrong. Its foundation was a work of research undertaken by Mr. J. L. Caw, Curator of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. Mr. Caw drew out a catalogue of over seven hundred paintings by Raeburn, dating the pictures and identifying the sitters where it was possible. On this indispensable foundation for study he sketched an account of the development of Raeburn's style. To illustrate all this Mr. Annan's excellent photographs were executed, and Mr. R. A. M. Stevenson invited to write an introductory essay on Raeburn and his art. The effort to fill out the book to the "Gainsborough" size has resulted in a somewhat awkward arrangement, for Sir Walter Armstrong's account is an expansion of the other two. Brilliantly written, and really adding to the exposition at certain points, it suffers from the necessity of repetition and of spinning out rather meagre material. So much may be said to explain the present three-barrelled shape. The original shape with a few notes from the third author would have been cheaper, lighter and quite adequate as a monument to Raeburn.

Mr. Stevenson's essay is the last we shall have from that admirable critic. He did not live to give us a book that was demanded from him by his training and prevailing taste, a book on modern landscape. Under the name of Corot might have been drawn together the ideas spent on hundreds of ephemeral notices and tested in hundreds of *pochades*, and the doctrine that only partly fitted Raeburn or Velazquez would have been developed in an exposition of the school whose working theory it was. That doctrine was the painting of objects in terms of natural values, and the growing of detail out of a general ensemble by proceeding from the most important planes as determined by the impact of light to their minor subdivisions. As a corollary of this manner of seeing the object, Mr. Stevenson's doctrine laid stress upon the method of "direct painting". By "direct painting" was meant (1) stating colour simultaneously with light and shade, not going through a line-drawing process, a chiaroscuro or dead-colour process, and a colouring process, and (2) carrying the whole picture forward as a whole towards finish: not finishing one part in detail or colour, while other parts remained uncoloured or general. Raeburn was a favourite with Stevenson because he recognised in him a painter who constructed not by line, but by light, and a direct painter whose process was one, whether for the general or the more detailed statement. Against Raeburn with his naturalistic, direct method he set Reynolds as more conventional and a worker by successive processes.

Before examining how far Raeburn as against Reynolds fits this theory let me give a taste of the ingenious exposition that leads up to the doctrine through the nationality and personality of the painter. First we have the fervour of the Scot setting him to follow out the logic of a method relentlessly, and putting him against any intermediate process that would chill the blood.

"The Scotsman, often cautious because he is intelligent, is also thoroughgoing in anything he may have taken up, for, above all, he is excitable and fervent. . . . Indeed even the dour and narrow-minded Scot is convinced of his absolute rightness

* "Sir Henry Raeburn." By Sir Walter Armstrong. With an Introduction by R. A. M. Stevenson and a biographical and descriptive Catalogue by J. L. Caw. London: Heinemann. 1901. £5 5s. net.

when he goes to any length of vicious absurdity. An average specimen goes to the devil post haste if he goes at all; but if he shakes his head at temptation, he sets to the business of making money with bitter zeal and unflagging interest. I have known stupid, quite ordinary men who lived as remote as hermits from everything but business advantage, scarcely spoke to their families, growled at laughter, at pleasure, at art, at exercise, at manners, and with the blind devotion of a S. Simeon Stylites killed self for a selfish end. Such a man, equipped with mental blinkers, sees one thing only, and becomes a swift and terrible agent in the hands of any who can turn him to face a given direction in religion, in sentiment, in politics, in mere devilry. . . . Conventions, accepted notions, melt in such a man's head; while, thanks to the national thoroughness, he fears no intellectual conclusions, he sticks at nothing to follow an argument of the moment, to quicken his humour, to sound the bottom depth of an idea."

Then we have the man himself forcibly sketched.

"Raeburn's face was strong and shrewd, but by no means unsympathetic or unkindly. A forehead broad and ample at the brows and neither too lofty nor too salient above, eyes wide open, wide apart, serene and attentive, a nose large rather than high, and spreading at the nostrils, a long upper lip, a broad chin, and a mouth straightly and firmly slit across the massive face, suggest a man of real emotions and practical genius rather than one given to fictitious fancies and poetical reverie. This fine type of face, which has belonged to many eminent doctors, lawyers, engineers and men of action, is characteristically Scottish, and may be noted in strong men of all ranks, and of all degrees of intellectual development. It always accompanies sense and observation; but in Raeburn it appears at its best, balanced by a due allowance of tolerance, the contemplative faculty and the instinctive good feeling we see in a dog, ennobled by natural wisdom, fired by sympathy and humour, refined by intellect, sentiment, and the habitual practice of an absorbing and intellectual art. He looks wise, fearless, independent, a friend, not a flatterer, a man of counsel, who would not forget the means to an end if one should ask his advice upon a project."

And then we have the method, as Stevenson found it inculcated in Carolus Duran's school. Much of it, curiously enough, goes back to David.

"The modern Frenchmen first indicated the drawing very slightly in charcoal; when they took up the brush they made no attempt to finish bit by bit; they tried rather, while the paint was wet, to cover the whole with a general lay-in of the broad masses in their main values of colour. At this stage they searched out and determined the relations between the composition masses, between the main structural planes, between the large elements of effect; and not until they had made sure of these important divisions would they load them with subdivisions and place upon them the delineation of detail, the finesse of modelling or the refinements of colour."

To Stevenson, then, Raeburn was a natural painter who broke with convention to follow his eyesight, and a direct painter who forsook process. A direct painter in light and shade he certainly was, but there are some qualifications to make against the novelty and the naturalness of his art as compared with that of Reynolds. I think we shall find that Stevenson's preference for "direct" painting distorted, to some extent, the evidence of his eyes. Having set up the somewhat doubtful axiom that naturalistic painting would imply direct painting, he reverses his argument, and is apt when he finds direct painting to say; This must be naturalistic painting.

In the arrangement of portrait and landscape background Raeburn is every bit as conventional as Reynolds, or, for the matter of that, Velazquez. None of these complicated the already sufficiently difficult problems of a portrait painter by posing his man in the open air. Raeburn took over Reynolds's landscape screen and his method of studio lighting (the shadow under the nose and other shadow accents). Reynolds, of the two, is more various in his lighting. There is an approximation to open-air effect in his "Nelly O'Brien," a face painted in transmitted and reflected light without strong shadows. If Raeburn used simple backgrounds for half-length portraits, so, before him, did Reynolds.

But, it is urged, Reynolds is a process-man: he interposes between the model and the final portrait drawings in line and in chiaroscuro, and in so doing follows ideals that are not those natural to the oil-paint image. As a matter of fact Reynolds was very little of a line draughtsman and only drew effectively with his brush. Lawrence, on the other hand, whom Raeburn often imitates or resembles and whom Mr. Stevenson cites as a direct painter, made

careful drawings in line before painting. As to the dead-colouring or chiaroscuro which Reynolds often employed, there was no reason in Raeburn's vision for discarding it. Raeburn does not paint in natural values: he paints in chiaroscuro with a brown shadow, which he often doctors, after Reynolds's fashion, with red. Moreover, if we are to give credit for reverting to direct painting, we must give it to Reynolds rather than to Raeburn. In 1775, when Raeburn was nineteen, Reynolds set his palette with preparations for full colour and notes: "The first sitting, for expedition, make a mixture on the palette as near the sitter's complexion as you can." Reynolds tried various manners of arriving at subtlety of colour: the effects of nature, the constitution of paint, differences in facility warn us against any hard and fast rule of method. Constable, Corot himself, worked on a chiaroscuro basis so as to determine the tone masses of the picture, and some preparation of the sort is necessary to start a notation of values. Glazing, which Mr. Stevenson is inclined to dismiss as "cookery", was a favourite resource of so advanced a naturalist as Theodore Rousseau.

Direct painting, then, does not necessarily accompany a high degree of justice in measuring values, nor was it associated in Raeburn with a close research of that kind. What it does imply is quickness and certainty in draughtsmanship, and readiness in improvising the design of a sitter. On these points Raeburn may claim to surpass Reynolds, and his manner of painting is the natural expression of his talent. The placing of features on which likeness depends, the build of a head, came to him easily, so that he could preserve in his work an unteased freshness of the paint. Design seems to have troubled him as little as drawing: he was satisfied to improvise. Liberated thus from the difficulties of tentative and research, he developed the vivacity of handling that in the very different style of Gainsborough also is associated with quick improvising.

Sir Walter Armstrong points out the change that took place in Raeburn's handling between the earlier and later period. His drawing indeed varies from a wilfully straight, angular, choppy contour to surfaces over-smooth, round and polished. It is probable that his first ideas in execution were based on the smartness of the mezzotints after Reynolds. His notions of drawing, of the treatment of noses, mouths, eye-orbits and brows are partly mannerised from Reynolds, and when in a softer style he echoed the sentiment of Hoppner and Lawrence the melting of the edges of forms in his established mask leads to what I have before now qualified as caoutchouc folds in the flesh and cold cream surfaces. There are too many mannerised masks and dolly heads, all eyes, ringlets and fashion in his day-by-day production. But design, brilliant painting, and stately or humorous character unite at times in his work with superb effect; witness the three Highland full-lengths of Spens, Sinclair, The MacNab, and that masterpiece which Sir Walter Armstrong eloquently praises, the "Mrs. James Campbell" exhibited last summer in Edinburgh. Before pictures like these we may join the advocates of his method to praise it as the right method for him, without a reproving thought for Reynolds or Titian.

D. S. M.

A TRAGIC COMEDIAN.

THE monotony of the outcry for a National Theatre is broken, now and again, by an outcry for a National School of Acting. I think that such a School would be a rather cumbrous and expensive means of teaching our mimes those little technical tricks which they contrive to master for themselves at cost of a brief experience. It would not, of course, be a means of creating great mimes, or even good mimes. It would not evoke genius or talent where genius or talent was not. Let the outcriers for it remember (and such of them as happen to be playgoers cannot fail to remember) that we have in England a quite sufficient number of mimes who "know their business". In London, in the suburbs, in the provinces, you do not often see any obvious amateur on the professional stage. When you do see one, you may be quite

sure that there is some definitely financial or romantic reason for the engagement, and that the management could have found, at a moment's notice, a score of efficiently professional substitutes—a score of mimes who could have walked and talked without suggesting to us what must have been the port and elocution of Charles I. half an hour after his head was cut off. Without any School, the supply of mimes who “know their business” is already far in excess of the demand for them. Nor would a School do anything to save us from the obtrusion of an amateur here and there. If, on the other hand, any of our outcriers harbour the delusion that a School would inculcate something more than technical tricks, let them reflect that we have already more than a sufficient number of good actors to go round. We very seldom see a play that is not really beneath notice, but we constantly see in one play two or three quite admirable actors. It is not good actors that we lack, but good dramatists. Had we merely a greater number of good actors, we should have merely an even greater amount of talent being thrown away on unworthy materials. I admit that we have very few good actresses. I do not profess to explain this rarity. Acting is supposed to be the only art (except singing) in which women may excel equally with men. But the fact remains that in this country, and in this age, the superiority of the male to the female sex is almost as obvious in the art of acting as it is in the other, more directly creative, arts. However, there remains this fact, also: that the small number of good actresses at our disposal is quite large enough to cope with the worthy chances given by our dramatists. Thus, even if a School could drill histrionic talent into girls, it were not the less a superfluous institution. A School that could drill dramatic talent into boys—that is what we need now. If cry out we must, let it be rather for an impossibility that we need than for one that we don't.

Of the good actors whose gifts, spent unworthily, are always shaming us for our lack of playwrights, perhaps the sharpest and strongest example is to be found in that irresistible creature, Mr. James Welch. That example is being adduced for us nightly at Terry's Theatre, in a farce called “The New Clown”. The second act contains a scene which seems to have been written in order that the full force of the example be driven home into our hearts. Mr. Welch plays the part of a weak aristocrat who, through farcical complications, wishes to become a clown in a circus. The ring-master tells him the kind of thing which the public will expect of him: he must grin, and jump, and crow, and be frequently knocked down. The novice demurs. “Isn't it all rather mediæval?” he pleads. “Couldn't I introduce a few subtle effects of my own, such as—” “Certainly not”, roars the ring-master. “What the public likes is to see a man being knocked down. And that's what you've got to give it.” Throughout this scene, there was in Mr. Welch's acting a note of tragedy deeper than was needed for art's sake. There was a vibrating note which must have been sounded from the depths of his own private soul. Was not the scene a precise epitome of Mr. Welch's career on the stage? Is it not always his inexorable fate to grin, and jump, and crow, and be monotonously buffeted? And, to him, being what he is, must not this seem a cruelly, stupidly unjust fate? Year in year out, we see him in a sequence of inane farces, with never a chance of doing real justice to his qualities. It is true that he has established himself the prince of knock-about artists—of being-knocked-about artists, at any rate. The public loves him devotedly, and is well content that he should continue to be what he is till crack of doom. But for us others, who revere an artist when we see him, and who hold that no true artist should be a being-knocked-about artist, Mr. Welch's career is a matter of irritation and distress hardly less poignant than it must be to Mr. Welch himself. The more lurid glimpses we catch of what he might do, the more are we distressed by what he actually is doing. In his every impersonation Mr. Welch gives us more or less frequent glimpses. We can always descry in him a true comedian, and occasionally a master of pathos.

His strongest point, perhaps, is pathos. In “The New Clown”, the other night, there was one moment at which, if I had been an irresponsible playgoer, not a critic on the look-out for points, the tears would have come into my eyes. The would-be clown, ordered by the ring-master to give a taste of his quality, has retired to the side of the tent, taken the tips of his coat-tails between finger and thumb of either hand, bounded into the air, uttering a hideous yell, and waddled to the ring-master's side. He has looked up eagerly into the ring-master's face, but has seen there no shadow of a smile. Abashed, he repeats his performance, this time for the benefit of the “strong man” of the show. He peers up into the averted face of the giant, who is staring blankly into distance. The giant slowly turns his head, and the would-be clown, thinking that he is going to meet a glance of approval, catches up his coat-tails again, and begins to smile. The coat-tails are dropped, the smile flickers away, under the scorn of the giant's gaze. . . . The episode lasts but a moment, with no word spoken. It is but the momentary twitch of Mr. Welch's eyelids, lips and fingers. And whatever passes thus in a moment, inarticulately, cannot be well described through the medium of writing. You must take it on trust that what I have tried to describe is a very rare and exquisite moment—one of those moments when the genius of an actor is revealed. Nor is comedic pathos the only kind of pathos in which Mr. Welch excels. If ever I heard the note of tragic pathos struck, I heard it struck authentically by Mr. Welch in “Macaire”, in the lament of the little scoundrel over the dead body of the great scoundrel, his master. In the cry “I didn't blab on you, Macaire!” Mr. Welch had that in his voice and face which could have been heard in the voice, seen in the face, of none but a born tragedian. Strange, that into one small body should have been packed thus together the souls of a comedian and a tragedian!

It is this very smallness of body which has prevented Mr. Welch from using in “high” classical tragedy the power which he undoubtedly has for it. That he would be a spiritually magnificent Othello I have no doubt at all. But even if, following a famous tradition, he blacked himself all over, he could not make a hit in the part. The process of his make-up would not have occupied sufficient time. Yet, though he is debarred by Nature from impersonating the normal heroes of tragedy, there is no reason why his tragic power should be revealed to us only in accidental glimpses—no reason, except the lamentable sterility of our modern dramatists. Who will write the tragi-comedy in which Mr. Welch will be able to use the full measure of his endowment? Generally, I disapprove the system of writing plays “round” this or that mime. But Mr. Welch is one of those exceptional beings in whose favour a critic willingly waives a principle. He is a tragic comedian, of the highest grade, measuring in height fewer inches than I should care to count. It were quite possible to create a play in which his tiny stature would be consistent with his towering talents. It would not, of course, be so easy as it is to write a play with a view to nothing but his tiny stature. But whoever did it would earn all my gratitude, and all the gratitude of every discerning playgoer.

“The New Clown” is remarkable as a waste not merely of Mr. Welch, but also of Miss Nina Boucicault, one of the few actresses who have that something which cannot be acquired through mere professionalism.

MAX.

MUSICAL DILETTANTES.

MOST things have beginnings. Years ago a good many people, including my humble self, Mr. Dolmetsch, Mr. Terry and others, began to work on the subject of the old music. Mr. Dolmetsch was the most useful man, because he played it first in those old days; later Mr. Terry became quite as useful, because he had it sung at Downside. I contented myself with scribbling about it. I wrote long, long columns about Purcell and Handel—perhaps my readers remember some of them. The result, not of my writings, but of the labours of Mr. Dolmetsch and the rest, was that at

last an interest began to be taken in the old music. It was listened to, its beauty and emotion were felt: people began to realise that there were great men before Agamemnon: that if Wagner was the latest word in music, neither Mozart nor Beethoven was the first. More important still, we began to gain a new notion of Handel. He ceased to be the dryasdust idol of Cathedral organists, the dull evangelical preacher of the Albert Hall and provincial choral societies; we began to see him as a splendid and romantic figure living triumphantly, winning his place as a great artist, in unromantic and inartistic days. And more important even than that, we began to have a notion of the greatness of our own Purcell. He had been known as the author of some Novello anthems, of two or three patriotic songs, of at least one popular concert song which he did not write. There was—and may be still, for all I know—a Purcell Society which seemed likely in the course of five centuries or so to get out a small proportion of his works; there was also—and may be still for all I know—a certain Mr. Cummings who wrote the most unlife-like life of him that could be conceived. But in the late eighties and the early nineties he began to be seriously studied for the first time. Other people had given a few of his compositions as amended by themselves; Mr. Dolmetsch played them as Purcell obviously intended them to be played and on the instruments on which Purcell intended them to be played. The result was a new idea of Purcell. Here, we saw, was no mere cathedral organist, but one of the most gorgeous artists the world had known, one of the most puissant figures in the whole history of music. And, after Purcell and Handel, we found other men who had been carefully disparaged by the Academics of the last two or three hundred years. There was, for example, Byrd. I had long been familiar with his gigantic D minor Mass; but it was only when Messrs. Squire and Terry brought out their edition of it, and when Mr. Terry's Downside choir sang it at the opening of the Benedictine church at Ealing, that it became possible to realise how great a work it was. And so I might continue to recount the artistic conquests of those young days. Hundreds of works were dragged out of oblivion; dozens of men were, so to speak, rehabilitated. But, dropping Byrd and the rest, to-day I wish, for a reason, to keep to Handel and Purcell.

Purcell was discovered; Handel was rediscovered. In these columns and elsewhere I have from time to time told all that was being done with regard to their music. For eight years I have written on the subject here, probably boring my readers to death with it. Mr. Dolmetsch's work being the most important done during these eight years I have devoted endless time and space to its discussion. Is it surprising then, Mr. Dolmetsch (and of course others) having accomplished the feat of making the true Purcell and the true Handel known to all who wanted to know them, that some gentlemen should come forward with the commendable ambition of making them known? The editor of the "British Weekly" has the agreeable habit of "discovering" celebrities—after they have become celebrities; and it is not for the rest of the world to lag behind. And accordingly the Purcell Operatic Society was formed. It was formed last year, I think, and it proposed to give the works of the great forgotten composers as they were meant to be given. I do not know one of the gentlemen who constitute this society; I read their prospectus with the greatest care and perfect impartiality; and I found it nearly blameless and wholly ridiculous. The Purcell Operatic Society proposed to give the operas of (besides some other quite well-known composers) Purcell, Handel, and, if you please, Arne—Arne who had his day of fame, and not having a touch of genius, is now deservedly forgotten. To such a scheme no serious attention could be given. People who cannot distinguish between the greatness of a Purcell or a Handel and the smallness of an Arne have no right to meddle at all in musical matters. But while last year I simply disregarded the Purcell Operatic Society, this year I am bound to notice it. The "Daily Telegraph" published this week the following notice:—

"Mr. Martin Dallas Shaw informs us that the

Purcell Operatic Society has succeeded in obtaining a theatre for the performance of 'Acis and Galatea' and the 'Masque' of Purcell to which reference has several times been made. Mr. Penley, it appears, willingly placed his 'house' in Great Queen Street at the society's disposal, and the performance will take place there on March 10. Mr. Shaw adds, 'Mozart's additional accompaniments to "Acis and Galatea" will be used, and I have re-scored Purcell's "Masque" (not altering a note of his original score), as a piano or harpsichord seems altogether out of keeping with the rest of the production, and I do not want to put anything in the way of Purcell's becoming popular.'

This seems to me one of the most monstrous things ever thought of. Handel finished his "Acis and Galatea" and left it, one of the loveliest things in music. Mozart added some accompaniments for a special occasion and spoiled it, which he would not have done but for the unholy influence of that patron of his, von or van Sweeten. The business of any one who in this age wants to give us Handel's music as Handel intended it to be given is surely to get rid of Mozart: Mozart is not Handel: to give Handel's music as changed by Mozart is not to give Handel's music as Handel intended it to be given. It is a pity to have to expound the obvious in this fashion, but it is absolutely necessary. For generations people have gone on altering the music of their predecessors, insisting all the time that they were merely doing what their predecessors would have done had they been sufficiently enlightened. It is this idea which Messrs. Dolmetsch and Terry in actual hard practice and myself in writing have combated; and this Purcell Operatic Society, following in the footsteps of the Purcell Society, has noisily stepped in to try to undo all that had been done. But if this treatment of Handel is bad, what are we to say of the treatment of Purcell? After all, Mozart was Handel's peer; if he altered Handel's scores he did the job as no one save old Bach could have done it. But who is this Mr. Shaw? Is he quite as great a composer as Purcell? Like Miss Dattle I ask merely for information. Of Mr. Shaw I know nothing; he may be, for all I know, finer than Purcell. But whether Mr. Shaw is great or small—and I cannot help thinking he is small—we do not know that he has Mozart's musicianship and we do know that he has not Mozart's excuse. What the rest of the world has learnt—that the scores of the great men are not to be tampered with—Mr. Shaw has not learnt. He comes forward to show us what Purcell's music is like—a thing we already know—and to show this he changes it. How one can rescoring this Masque of Purcell's without altering a note of the original score is a feat past my comprehension. It reminds me of Mr. Maitland's exploits with "King Arthur". He wrote an article in a musical paper, now defunct, and explained that while he had changed nothing he had for the sake of "better effect" changed several things. Mr. Shaw beats him. Purcell meant his music to be played on the harpsichord: Mr. Shaw comes along and finds that the piano—of which Purcell never dreamt—or harpsichord "seems altogether out of keeping with the rest of the production", and so rescoring his music for him! The mental state of these people is hard to understand. One can understand the men, like old Burney, who amend the "faults" in the older music: but it simply takes away one's breath to find men who propose to play the old music as the composers meant it to be played and yet alter it.

After all, the curse of dilettanteism is over music in England, as well as the curse of Academicism. Either men regard music as a trade or as an amusement—never as an art. The dilettante must be got rid of as well as the Academic. Such an affair as the Purcell Operatic Society should not be supported: that is all that can be said about it.

I have only space for a few lines about one of the most agreeable of the many concerts I have attended of late. Miss Alys Mutch sings pleasantly; and moreover she afforded us on Thursday night one more opportunity of hearing Mr. Denis O'Sullivan, who is, in his own way, one of the finest of living artists.

J. F. R.

THE ABSOLUTE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

SO long ago as October 1900 we said that the best advice that could be given to the directors, the shareholders, and the policy-holders of the Absolute was to reassure the policies with some well-established company, and wind up the Absolute with as little delay as possible. Recent events have shown that this advice was thoroughly well founded; but as the shareholders somewhere about a year ago appointed a committee of investigation, and after hearing most, if not all, of the facts about previous mismanagement decided to go on with the business, we have thought it well to abstain till now from further comment on the position and prospects of the office.

As a result of the committee's report Mr. Whieldon Barnett, the chairman, Mr. Pope, the secretary, and some of the directors were replaced. The board has perhaps failed to increase the prosperity of the office by the appointment of directors not elected by the shareholders; but the present manager has done well in very difficult circumstances, and the Accident Department seems to have been a success.

From a policy-holder's point of view the Absolute is wholly unattractive, but not unsafe. There seems no prospect of bonuses being earned, but the security afforded by the Life Assurance Fund and by the statutory deposit makes it quite possible to reassure the policies with another company, and so secure the policy-holders from loss.

The people who have suffered most in connexion with the company are the shareholders, and seeing what a bad bargain they made when they took the shares many of them have endeavoured to escape liability. A case was reported this week in which a man who had subscribed for 2,000 shares, stated that he had been induced to do so by misrepresentations made by Mr. Pope, the former secretary, and claimed not only the rescission of the contract, but the return of the money paid. The jury believed the plaintiff, and the verdict was given against the company. Only a few days previously another shareholder resisted the payment of calls, but the matter was settled, without being tried, by the shareholder agreeing to judgment being given against him, although we believed that it was arranged that he should not be liable for the full amount uncalled upon the shares.

These are not the only cases in which shareholders have objected to paying calls, and it is not improbable that the recent judgment given against the company may induce other shareholders to dispute their liability. In these circumstances and considering the financial position of some holders of shares it is doubtful whether the uncalled share capital is of anything like the value at which it appeared in the last balance sheet. Probably by now the most sanguine person would be unable to persuade himself that there is any likelihood of the company ever being a financial success for the shareholders. Too much money has been wasted, and too many unsatisfactory transactions made public for the company to stand any chance of being recognised as a desirable office in which to effect insurance. The sooner the shareholders face this fact the better it will be for them. Their money is being spent on legal proceedings and in other unproductive ways, with the result that their position instead of getting better becomes worse.

The position of the debenture-holders is also none too satisfactory, and it appears that undue preference has been given to some debenture-holders by exchanging debentures for paid-up policies, which presumably afford better security. This was one of the performances of the late board, who however, when they carried out this arrangement, seem to have omitted to pay to the trustees for policy-holders the necessary security for meeting these policies at maturity. In this latter transaction, and possibly in others, the late board, which was responsible for them, may have exceeded its powers and perhaps the shareholders could obtain some redress from the former directors. Were it necessary, additional reasons could be given to those here stated, and to those of a quite different nature which we gave in October 1900 for holding that the only sensible course for the company to adopt is to reinsure its policies and wind up without further delay.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MORE CULTIVATED AMERICAN.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Aiken Club, Aiken, S.C., U.S.A., 9 February, 1902.

SIR,—Much has been written of the commercial invasion of Europe, but little or no attention has been paid to the social invasion of America, or, to put it clearly, the gradual Anglicising of the States from a social point of view.

This change has been subtle, gradual and unrecognised of the people. This non-recognition is due in a manner to the unwillingness of the large German and Irish element in the country—the hyphenated Americans—to allow that any good thing can come out of Israel.

The strong current of sympathy with England in her work of civilisation in South Africa is broken only by the spasmodic and sporadic opposition of a few New York gentlemen with Dutch names.

A few straws showing which way the wind blows are of moderate interest. Even in the Wild West one may now hear shop for “store”, station for “depôt”, cab for “hack”, and—most significant of all—servant for “help”. Maids wear caps cheerfully in this modern time, tradesmen receipt their bills “with thanks”, and one may, if in luck, find a porter at the railway station.

The American girl is less bloodless and is beginning to realise that there is such a thing as a physical as well as a mental existence, and the American young man dresses for dinner.

The travelled American is beginning to see that to be democratic is not necessarily to be dirty, and that true republicanism has no quarrel with the daily tub.

I am, Sir, faithfully yours,

WALTER PHELPS DODGE.

A COLONEL ON GENERALS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

South Africa, 6 January, 1902.

DEAR SIR,—Your REVIEW has been sent to this company for some time and has been read by us with much interest. Permit me to express our thanks for it, and our appreciation of your military writers and your own policy of justice in dealing with the many difficult questions that this war has given rise to. If the press generally had followed your lead, we should not have been troubled with much unfair and harmful criticism. But criticism is wanted—not so much, I think, of individual acts of officers, as of the more general results throwing light upon systems and training. The best tennis-player may make some bad strokes and yet beat his adversary easily. Those strokes may be inexcusable, even, in themselves; yet the player be a good one. War is not an exact science, but a game with more chance element than tennis and requiring courage to attempt strokes which may turn out disadvantageous instead of successful. Press criticism of every bad stroke of commanders has tended to produce a caution in the average column commander which has disinclined him from attempting to make strokes at all. He waits for the certain or safe opportunity. How often do these occur in war? Lord Kitchener is entirely in the hands of these men for most of his results. His dispositions can only bring the column within striking distance of the commandoes and they do; the column leaders must do the striking themselves. It is generally in the bold decision, the rapid and risky night march, where success is gained. The accidental position of a native scout on either side may govern the result of such an effort by determining which is the one to be surprised. Much is made of our “regrettable incidents”, but the Boers have also had many too. Nevertheless, I think we must come to the conclusion that our Intelligence has proved unsatisfactory. It is not sufficient to point out undeniable drawbacks—ignorance of a strange country, impossibility of terrorising natives by brutal Boer methods &c.—alone these

do not excuse us considering our vast numbers, and the colonial and native assistance available to aid us.

I have done a good deal of trekking, and have also been left with isolated garrisons in towns, and my conclusions may therefore be useful to compare with those of your other correspondents. What has all along struck me in this and other matters is this. That our generals and other officers fail because they have so little business capacity. They do not usually make the most of the resources at their disposal by setting to work to organise them in a methodical manner. The Intelligence at head-quarters works at a distance and takes time to operate of necessity. It naturally is therefore chiefly concerned with strategy, with big operations. Here possibly we have little in fault. The weak, but in the latter days equally important branch is the local or tactical Intelligence and this has ever been our weak point. Had our various subordinate generals and colonels been capable business men they would have set to work to create something efficient from the material allowed them, and in my opinion they could have done so. To describe such measures would take too long, and doubtless several methods would find exponents. The chief thing to note is that the happy-go-lucky absence of method is a failure in this as in other branches of our leadership. This leads up to the material point—why this absence of business capacity amongst officers? Why have we so few men really fit to be generals amongst the many who hold that rank? Go amongst the officers out here and what opinion do you hear of the average general? There are admitted good ones, but these are few. The remainder mostly come under the phrase—"A good chap, but no use as a general".

It is worthy of remark that many admittedly good colonels fail as generals or column leaders, and that they probably feel at sea in their new position. To my mind the cause of this is to be found in our system of army administration. The matter is not fully explained by the usual remark as to the absence at home of manoeuvre grounds. In point of fact this absence explains only a small part of the failure. It is not in fighting-tactics that the general will fail, once he is engaged with the enemy. His failure is in the thinking required for preparation, for organising his Intelligence, his transport, his supplies, and his movements to get to the enemy. To secure the co-operation of various units, and the collection and husbanding of material is essential. But this cannot be done unless there is method and careful calculation. That is the work of the general which no one else can do. However good the staff one mind must direct their various energies. To do it the general must be accustomed to business methods unless he is a genius, or has business capacity as a natural gift. Staff officers and colonels must also be in possession of these powers. Their absence is the cause of the prevalent confusion and muddling. If you consider the training of the officer from the time he enters the service, the absence of business capacity, of these powers of methodical procedure, and balancing of the various conditions of his problems is easily explained.

But to the ordinary civilian who does not grasp the life led, and coming in contact with the military finds this absence of method, the experience is stupefying. Colonials have assured me that the Imperial officer is the stupidest and bravest man they have met. As business men—and war is a business—I must confess, I think we are failures. Some of us, it is true, do not know it. But we are not stupid naturally, we are not bad material. We come from the same families as the Civil servant, and liberal professions and many business men. If this be so, there is no shirking the conclusion that our system evolves from good material officers without powers of organising or business capacity in general. The reason is that the politician will not give to the army the education involved in self-government. He condemns the brain of the officer to rust, and stores up the intellectual force of the army in the heads of Civil servants who do not go to the war. In doing this the politician is guided by the average Civil servant of the War Office and Treasury, who likes to keep the practical monopoly of administrative power (and think-

ing) in his own hands; and points to the business incapacity of soldiers, not as the result of his own rule but as the reason why that rule must be continued for the public benefit. It is the old argument of despotism that the governed are unfit to govern themselves and so must never be given the chance to learn. That the military side of the War Office has ever striven to wrest some power from the Civil servant must not be taken as proving that the average officer is fully aware of his need of administrative education. To many the struggle is a personal matter only, or one at most confined to the walls of the War Office. There are military despots who whilst anxious to increase their own power would never agree to delegate any to officers outside their own offices. A transfer of power to such would but little benefit the army.

The systematic delegation of power and responsibility to all ranks of the army at large is quite feasible and has been accomplished by Germany. It had to be enforced there, and would require no small pressure with us. Self-government means work—the work that is to produce generals by forcing officers to think during their life in the army. Natural inertia will always be a strong force against such reform as this at the outset. But if it be thought that we can produce businesslike generals with well-trained thinking apparatus by delegating administrative powers to them alone and leaving all lower grades out of the scheme of education, we shall surely find our mistake. The neglected colonel will not suddenly become the able general. I think the public should bear this in mind, and remember that the real reformer wanted is one who will keep clearly in view the need for self-government of the army at large, not merely the transfer of patronage and despotic power from a clique of black coats to another of red coats. It is a difficult task; for those who now have the power do not want to part with it; and many of those who ought to be made to assume it, fight shy of the responsibility and thinking involved. Much is said against red tape by officers; but all who are lazy, incompetent, or indifferent find it a very comfortable system in practice, and would in point of fact silently resist a change which threatened to bring the necessity for efficiency, or in default of it failure and exposure. In a small book I wrote before coming out here ("Army Administration" by Centurion, Constable) I advocated bringing up the C. in C. to the side of the Secretary of State as his professional alter ego with power over the Financial Secretary and the civil side of the W. O. generally. I still think this is the necessary preliminary to a real army reform, because you cannot institute a delegation of administrative authority throughout the army without rewriting the existing regulations, and finance meets you at every turn. These high military authorities will require "gentle persuasion" to trust those below them with power no less than the Civil servant; and for this to be systematically worked out the Secretary of State and C. in C. must work together as one man, and the dual control of the present system must be abolished at its fountain-head.

Yours, &c.

CENTURION.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

36 Bloomsbury Street, W.C.

SIR,—Will you permit me to suggest that the article on Mr. Chamberlain in the SATURDAY REVIEW of last week was not quite fair to the colonies. You say that "Mr. Chamberlain has revolutionised the relations between the Mother-country and her dependencies". Surely the credit for that is due to the colonies, which voluntarily demonstrated the solidarity of the Empire on the battlefields of South Africa. Again we are told that "the Colonial Secretary has breathed a new spirit into the young and gallant communities beyond the seas: he has elevated them to a consciousness, hitherto dormant, of their high destiny". The spirit which animates the colonies is not "new". Not only is it a hundred years old, but it has a great and

honourable tradition. The consciousness of their high destiny has never been "dormant" in Englishmen beyond the seas; or Canada, Australasia, and South Africa would not be where they are to-day. It was "dormant" in Englishmen at home, but for heaven's sake don't let us fall into the egotistical error of mistaking our Imperialism for colonial loyalty. To suppose that it has been called forth by Mr. Chamberlain since he became Colonial Secretary is to cheapen it, because the force behind it has been growing for a century and more. Mr. Chamberlain is passing, colonial loyalty is permanent. It is identified neither with a man nor a party, wherein lies the difference between it and Imperialism. Until this last becomes a national sentiment or a passion it will continue to be as sterile as loyalty is fruitful.

Obediently yours,

C. DE THIERRY.

[To be taken to task for overpraise of Mr. Chamberlain has for us something of the charm of novelty, but we must not, in our enjoyment of that, allow Miss de Thierry to carry away the idea that we regard Mr. Chamberlain as the fount of the loyalty and enthusiasm of Greater Britain for the Mother-country. That would be ignorance as ghastly as, say, Seeley's politician laboured under when he thought England could whistle off the colonies and become quite comfortably the "old solitary island" of Queen Elizabeth's time. We have certainly damned with no faint praise Mr. Chamberlain's forcefulness and foresight; but if Miss de Thierry will read the impugned passages together with those in the same article in which Mr. Chamberlain is described as having some years ago discovered the true trend of events and having chosen the Colonial Office with unerring instinct, she will get a truer idea of our estimate of Mr. Chamberlain.—ED. S. R.]

A RESERVE ARMY OF CITIZENS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

17 February, 1902.

SIR,—Your correspondent in your issue of 15 February suggests the raising of a large home army by payment for efficiency. The existing machinery of the Volunteer Service, if properly made use of, would give us an enormous reserve of trained men.

Lord Roberts tells us the Volunteer Force must be better trained—that is certainly true; but there are so many ways of obtaining greater efficiency combined with much greater numbers that the present regulations appear almost to be framed with the object of inducing a breakdown.

I would suggest payment for efficiency—that is a minimum of efficiency without pay, and a certain sum for increased efficiency, say 6*d.* for every battalion or works of defence drill. After six years' service in the Volunteers as private, non-com. and officer I am convinced that if it were possible for us to put in two months service with regular troops, at home, but more especially abroad, receiving army pay, and with expenses, as in the case of regular troops, paid, the Volunteer service would gain enormously both in numbers and in efficiency.

Speaking simply for the artillery, I believe it would be possible to draft a third of the force to Mediterranean stations, or to Halifax, N.S. for two months, voluntary service every two years: and the popularity of the Volunteer service would be greatly increased thereby. I believe that instead of numbering 250,000, as it will do this year, and most likely less next year, we should have probably double that number of well-drilled troops.

One thing is certain: we shall have to treat the question of defence seriously, and in no spirit of petty saving. If the country is worth defending, its defence is worth paying for.

Your obedient servant,

VOLUNTEER.

REVIEWS.

ULYSSES' UNBENT BOW.

"Ulysses: a Drama in a Prologue and three Acts."
By Stephen Phillips. London: John Lane. 1902.
4*s.* 6*d.* net.

MR. STEPHEN PHILLIPS' new play has been written for the stage with even more than his usual care. It is not, in any true sense, dramatic, but it is admirably calculated for Her Majesty's Theatre, where spectacle comes first and drama second. Read quietly, apart from the gloom and glitter of the stage (Hades in black velvet, Calypso's island of purple fruits) it holds the attention only at intervals, and then only by some clever suggestion of the stage. The last act has bustle and movement; we are curious to know when the shooting will begin: it is not Ulysses who interests us, but the end of the adventure. We have already been told, it is true, how the adventure is to end. Like Goethe, Mr. Phillips must have his prologue in heaven, but, unlike Goethe, without criticism of the eternal scheme of things. This prologue is written in rhymed verse of an innocently pantomimic kind. It begins:

"Father, whose oath in hollow hell is heard;
Whose act is lightning after thunder-word;
A boon! a boon! that I compassion find
For one, the most unhappy of mankind."

The cadence is the cadence of all the pantomimes; Athene has just come up through a trap-door, like the Good Genius; Poseidon, the Evil Genius, prepares for a wrangle of celestial wills.

"Thy rancour is eternal as thy life,
Thy genius ruin, and thy being strife!"

Athene assures him, and he answers:

"And thou, demure defender of chaste lives,
Smooth patroness of virgins and of wives,
I'll pluck from thee the veil thy craft doth wear,
The secret burning of thy heart declare."

There is more, and then Zeus interferes, with:

"Peace,
Children, and from your shrill reviling cease!"

Such is Mr. Phillips' conception of the gods, such the verse in which he ventures to set them talking. Since Heine met Zeus "hiding himself behind the ice-bergs of the North Pole", and "dealing in rabbit-skins, like a shabby Savoyard", no such indignity has befallen the Olympians. Hitherto even the makers of pantomime have been considerate. Verse has been a decent mantle for fallen greatness; in verse the gods have been safe at least from the mockery of their old foe, now almost universally powerful, whom we call, in the language of the present day, the bourgeois, or Philistines. But now the Philistines are upon them, they have been trapped by a poet, a poet has set them up in cages for children and fools to laugh at.

The pantomime over, the adventures begin. The adventures, though they do not make a drama, though they are but so many specimen doings of Ulysses, are better than the pantomime. In the first place, they are written in blank verse, and Mr. Phillips' blank verse, though timid and monotonous, feeling out after every syllable, balancing every syllable as it goes, is much better than his rhymed verse. Take, for instance, four characteristic lines:

"Thou knowest the long years I have not quailed,
True to a vision, steadfast to a dream,
Indissolubly married to remembrance;
But now I am so driven I faint at last!"

Such verse is nerveless, it does not live, it does but yearn after a ghostly life, it does but gasp in a vacuum; but it is not a parody, like the rhymed verse of the prologue. Once or twice it becomes vigorous, as in this speech of Athene to Telemachus:

"Art thou his son?
Art thou the child of the swift and terrible one?
Could he who shattered Troy beget thee too?
What dost thou here, thy head upon thy hands,
While all the floor runs with thy father's wine,
And drunken day reels into lustful night?"

What more must these men do to make thee wroth?
 How scratch, how bite, how wound thee to find blood?
 O, should Ulysses come again, how long,
 How long should strangers glut themselves at ease?
 Why, he would send a cry along the halls
 That with the roaring all the walls would rock,
 And the roof bleed, anticipating blood,
 With a hurrying of many ghosts to hell,
 When he leapt amid them, when he flashed, when he
 cried,
 When he flew on them, when he struck, when he
 stamped them dead!
 Up! up! here is thy Troy, thy Helen here!"

That is the most vigorous speech in the play; it is almost the only moment in which a suggestion of living words comes into the recitation. The prose near the beginning of Act III., in the scene with the swineherd, carries some meaning, beyond the mere significance of well-chosen words; and there are speeches which would be expressive if they were spoken about their speakers, instead of by them. But of the qualities which make great drama, as of the qualities which make great poetry, what traces are there to be found in this careful composition? Is there a great fundamental conception? Is there, in the true sense of that ambiguous phrase, any "criticism of life"? Is there any keen sense of character, any nobility of feeling, any imaginative splendour, any subtlety of beauty, any new vision of the world or of mortal things? Does the work live, is it a creation?

It is ingenious, it is elegant, the words are graceful, the figures stand effectively upon the stage, there is a diffused poetical feeling throughout. There is for the most part a fine taste, of the negative kind, "le goût relatif", as Victor Hugo calls it in the "Post-scriptum de ma Vie". Except in the unfortunate prologue in heaven there is nothing to shock, everything is in measure. The speeches are neatly balanced, they succeed one another in a well-calculated order. The scene, for instance, between Ulysses and Calypso has not a breath of life in it, but how cleverly it is put together! The obvious thought, the expected emotion, is always exact to its minute. The see-saw of question and answer, gently accelerated—

"CAL. And can she set a rose in bosom or hair?

ULYS. She hath a wisdom among garden flowers"—

fills up the required intervals of the passion which is not there. Nothing is said, but how deftly arranged an occasion for saying true and splendid things! Mr. Phillips seems to be content when he has sketched out a situation. He presents us with the outline, and we say: Very good; now begin to work upon it. Bring life into it, bring poetry into it. But Mr. Phillips, surprised, answers: It is finished.

JAPAN IN ROSE-TINT.

"Japan." By Mortimer Menpes. London: Black. 1901. 20s. net.

THE "record in colour" of an artist's visits to the Mikado's Empire merits attention, not merely because it contains pictures of life in Japan viewed under delightfully varied conditions, but for the serviceable glimpses that it here and there affords of the actual attitude of the Japanese themselves toward Occidentals. Doubtless there is in the Japanese character a considerable tincture of insular prejudice, which is, in its way, by no means a bad thing, nor is it that which the British have any right to condemn. It is only with difficulty that the Tenshi's subjects can accustom themselves to the idea of throwing open their gates unreservedly to the entrance of the stranger, be he merchant or merely sightseer. They feel that something ought, for safety's sake, to be held back, and it is not surprising, perhaps, that, with a barrier of this description to keep them apart, free and beneficial intercourse between aliens and natives does not progress rapidly. Although the irritation which had for years been felt by Japanese at the assumption and enjoyment of extraterritorial privileges by foreigners ought to have been extinguished in 1899, when the strangers were finally brought within the control of

Japan's own laws, the uneasiness, it is plain, has not wholly subsided. Travelled Japanese deplore the lack of genuine sympathy, and warmly appreciate the efforts that from time to time are made to promote a thoroughly cordial feeling between their fellow-countrymen and the peoples of the West. Were the residents of Yokohama and other ports in the Far East as able and willing as are the onlookers from a distance to recognise that in the natives of Japan they possess neighbours whose desire substantially is to dwell in amity and concord with all, irrespective of nationality, who live under the banner of the rising sun, the obstacles in the path of enlightened interchange of thought and feeling might possibly be removed. In Tokio, despite the deficiency in this respect which Mr. Menpes seems to have perceived, there is good reason to think that a far wider appreciation of the excellent qualities of the Japanese in general is to be met with than commonly prevails at the chief commercial centres, and the cause is perhaps not far to seek. At the capital its foreign inhabitants mix in great measure with a type of native whose aspirations have for the most part risen above minor trading considerations, and whose antipathies, if they exist, do not prevent his treating the Western visitors to his country with studied politeness. There is a marked absence, moreover, of that desire to overreach which too often is manifested by the Oriental tradesman in his dealings with the foreigner elsewhere. But in places that formerly were classed as "treaty ports" both sides have much to unlearn, and it may not for years to come be feasible for the Occidental to divest himself wholly of the impression that though in Japan he is not of Japan.

It has for so long been the habit of the European or American merchant to deem himself an exile, condemned to remain in banishment amid uncongenial surroundings upon Japanese soil until such time as he may succeed in accumulating wealth wherewith to return home and exist comfortably, that the idea of permanently settling in Nippon as the country of his adoption, is one that is of extremely slow growth. Between this reluctance to regard himself as merged in the mass of Japan's population and that definitely antagonistic demeanour toward the Japanese with which he is credited by Mr. Mortimer Menpes, there is, however, a sufficiently wide distinction. The foreigners in Yokohama surely do not deserve such severe censure as Mr. Menpes has meted out to them in his book, mainly because they seem to have retained some of that stiffness in dealing with the natives of Japan which they have all along been prone, perhaps, to exhibit, and of which they are unable as yet entirely to free themselves. It is owing to the fact that Mr. Menpes apparently did not altogether succeed in enlisting the sympathies of the foreign residents there in his efforts to direct attention solely to the artistic—and naturally to himself the most alluring—phase of the Japanese character, that he has thought fit to denounce "the bulk of the Europeans" whom he met in the port as apparently "spending half their time in abusing Japan and everything Japanese". It is true that Yokohama has not been displaying relatively such astonishing commercial activity of late years as it formerly enjoyed, and were there grounds for accepting in their entirety Mr. Menpes' dicta concerning the pursuits of its foreign population there would be no need to look farther for an explanation of that circumstance. For there could hardly be anything less profitable as an occupation for the Yokohama merchants who constitute "the bulk of the Europeans" than that of finding fault with the Japanese and the land they live in. Happily there is a basis for the belief that the majority do contrive to discover something better to do than to deplore the existence of unamiable traits in the Japanese nature. If it were not so, they would be even more to be pitied than are those enlightened Japanese who occasionally find their country and its institutions made the objects of unstinted and unpalatable adulation.

It is because Mr. Menpes has allowed himself far more latitude in his pen-and-ink records than in those that he has so skilfully executed in colour that there is occasion to regret his inability to view men and

matters in the European settlements as accurately and dispassionately as he unquestionably saw and sketched the striking and agreeable features of life in Kioto. He not only bewails the unsympathetic bearing toward Japanese art of the average Yokohama European or American resident, but he permits himself to declare that it is "strange that a colony of such unrefined, uneducated people should presume to criticise these artists", i.e. the Japanese as a nation. And Tokio, we gather from Mr. Menpes' account of it—"with its formal dinners and conventionalities, was much the same". Furthermore, "with epithets such as 'Crank' and 'Madman' hurled after him" he fled to Kioto, he tells us, "there to lose himself in endless and undreamt-of joys". If Yokohama was for once uncivil to a visitor—an incident utterly at variance with its ordinarily most hospitable treatment of travellers—it will be acknowledged that the disappointed visitor has retaliated by placing upon record his impressions of the European community in terms that are the reverse of flattering. And whilst he has little that is good to write of the Occidental exiles, he is ready to shower encomiums upon the Japanese, their country, products, and every adjunct to existence in the land of the chrysanthemum to a degree that is almost ludicrous. They are a nation of artists, they have "thought out and handled" their territory, every square inch of it, until it has attained to perfection, they have forced the very trees on the highroads that every visitor admires to assume a certain decorative pattern, and they have compelled mountains and cataracts, and the physical features of their land in general, to unite in accommodating themselves to the designs of the Japanese landscape-gardener. Even the soldiery of the Japanese Empire fall in for a share of this extravagant eulogy, for Mr. Menpes regards them as "having proved themselves to be equal to, if not better than, any other soldiers in the world".

The faults to be found with Mr. Menpes' work, however, are invariably the result of his having permitted his zeal to outrun his discretion. He has usefully depicted, in minute detail, the real life of these amiable "Britons of the Far East". Japan secures the interested attention of Britons everywhere, not because it is British in respect of its scenery, nor in relation to the conditions of human existence which are there to be studied, for in these respects there is but little in common. It is because Japan has to a very appreciable extent modelled her institutions and her ambitions upon ours that we are bound to take, as a nation, the utmost concern in her progress and welfare. Mr. Mortimer Menpes, in his vivid sketches, amply proves that, though a New Japan has appeared on the commercial horizon, the Old Japan, fascinating as ever, still lives to gladden the heart of the wayfarer with quaint loveliness and inimitable grace. In all essentials it remains a land where existence is joyous, untrammelled by those conventionalities that oppress us in the West. In defiance of all prediction it retains in their purity the picturesque elements that made it of old so good a place to live and to enjoy oneself in.

THE OLD EVOLUTIONIST AND THE NEW.

"Lamarck the Founder of Evolution." By Alpheus S. Packard. London: Longmans. 1901. 9s. net.

THE growth of a great idea which has become accepted as a doctrine by the learned who are able to test it, and by those who receive it, as the multitude must do, on authority, is the most instructive of studies. It shows opinion in course of growth, old opinions giving place to new; and throws a searchlight on men's weaknesses, passions and prejudices which amuses the cynical, and reveals to serious students general principles of wide application to the history of individuals and society. We may for example always lay down the maxim that the originator of a new view of great importance in its effects on any current mode of thinking or conduct will be in the position of the prophets who are stoned in one generation and canonised in the next. It might be thought that after our many experiences of this kind we should possess more flexible minds and temperaments and receive the

new with less intolerance. But no. In 1859 it appeared that the author of the "Origin of Species" would have to bear as he best might the like outburst of fury against the new notion that Lamarck had to bear when he published his "Philosophie Zoologique" just half a century earlier. It may be said that, as neo-Lamarckism and Darwinism are even now rival theories of evolution, neither of which has proved its right to exclusive acceptance over the other, it is not surprising, and not objectionable, that neither of them should be allowed to supersede older theories or even to throw doubt on them without a very naturally excited protest. That is hardly however a valid apologia for our unwillingness to accept new ideas of any sort. In reality it is dislike for change, stiffness of intellect. If we were more flexible in character we should see truth sooner. Between Lamarck and Darwin the evidence for evolution had accumulated so rapidly that it might have been supposed there would be much less opposition when Darwin reviewed this body of evidence, and showed in what direction it pointed, than when Lamarck had first sketched in much rougher outline that view of nature which was destined to replace the old interpretation of organic life on an hypothesis of special creation.

But it was not Darwin's method of evolution by natural selection, nor the greater variety of influences which in Lamarck's view carried on the operation of creation of species, that was repugnant to the savants and the populace alike. It looked at the time as if it were a mere chance whether the hypothesis as to evolution should be a re-adapted Lamarckism, or a theory independent of him, as Darwin's at first professed to be, though in fact it has only become so in the course of developments that have taken place since Darwin's death. Spencer at least seven years before the "Origin of Species" was an improved Lamarckist. But though there was a probability of a revival of Lamarckism, if Darwin had not arisen, the fight would still have had to be fought over the fact of evolution itself. The triumph of evolution by general consent belongs to Darwin; the honour of having given it a scientific basis, imperfect though it necessarily was, and maintaining it in opposition to the great names of Buffon and Cuvier, belongs to Lamarck. Moreover, in England there was a decided impetus towards it given by the new geology of Lyell and the botany of Hooker, which facilitated Darwin's acceptance of it, and made it easier of presentment as a new idea than it had been to Lamarck. Darwin's greater difficulty began with his entirely novel explanation of evolution by the method of natural selection, and between him and Lamarck there remains still the question to whom shall belong the ultimate triumph on this point of the contest. In England, Germany, and America naturalists are divided in the matter. Germany has its great champion of the pure Darwinian doctrine in Weismann; and in America and England he has his following. But while in England there is the great name of Spencer on the side of Lamarck, in America more than in any other country there is what Mr. Chalmers Mitchell calls, in his biography of Huxley, a school which advocates more and more strongly the importance of the Lamarckian factors of evolution—the inherited effects of increased or diminished use of organs, the direct influence of the environment and so on. The writer of the book mentioned above who is Professor of Zoology and Geology in Brown University is one of this school, and the object of his book is to state the facts of Lamarck's life which are little known, and, by selections from his writings bearing on evolution, to bring his views more directly before students than they have been brought so far. The book is most interesting on its purely biographical side, and the study of Lamarck in the character of man of science, and his place in the history of palæontology, botany, and zoology, apart from his great work in the theory of evolution, is an able and learned contribution to the history of those sciences. From the point of view of the contest between Lamarckism and Darwinism the chapter on Neo-Lamarckism is the most important. It is especially valuable to students who, though they may not be professional naturalists, are interested in the hypothesis of evolution as an intellectual, or philosophical, or theo-

logical idea, or as whatever we may choose to consider it. Books on Darwinism are more accessible, and one ought to preserve one's fairness of view by supplementing one's usual reading with the opposing Lamarckism which still holds the field though not alone. Dr. Packard gives an extensive historic summary of the opinions of neo-Lamarckists from Mr. Spencer down to the most recent writers on the subject. It is noticeable that the school is not extremist as the Darwinians of later days have become for, as has often been remarked, they are more Darwinian than Darwin. It is inclined to harmonise the two views as Haeckel does. This at least is a phenomenon very recognisable in the great historic debates. The old rages against the new, and the new replies with contempt. Then comes the compromise, the coalition, the harmony, and peace is restored until the advent of some new idea starts a fresh controversy and the elements are again unloosed.

THE FUNNY MAN.

"The Confessions of a Caricaturist." By Harry Furniss. London: Unwin. 1901.

THE caricaturist and the mimic both live by the same art. Both portray, the one on paper and the other on the stage or platform, the peculiarities of their fellow-men. Mr. Harry Furniss combines the characters, for he is not only the artist, with whose caricatures of politicians we were at one time familiar in the pages of "Punch", but he is the funny lecturer, who mimics celebrities on the platform. In the volumes before us are reproduced some of his most celebrated political caricatures, with letterpress descriptive of certain scenes in Parliament, and there are also a great many amusing sketches of his travelling experiences in America and Australia. As a political caricaturist Mr. Harry Furniss made two decided hits, his Mr. Gladstone with the shirt-collars, and his Sir William Harcourt with the series of chins. Barring these, he never had, in our judgment, a single success, his caricatures of other politicians striking us as coarse failures. A man may have a great deal of humour and yet be a bad caricaturist, for he may be incapable of catching a likeness, and a caricature must be recognisable. By the way, the sketch of Lord Randolph Churchill in his decadence on p. 189, with beard and cigarette and puffy wrinkled face, must be excepted from this criticism: it is very good, and worthy to rank with Mr. Gladstone and Sir William Harcourt.

As a humourist Mr. Furniss pleases us less than as a caricaturist. His lecture on "The Humours of Parliament" was impertinent and vulgar. Dr. Johnson used to declare that Foote—the Furniss of his day—was restrained by fear from bringing him on the stage, as he had threatened to break every bone in the buffoon's body. We often wondered that the "Humours of Parliament" were not followed by some bone-breaking, except that there were physical reasons for not assaulting Mr. Furniss, unless "technically", as Mr. Swift McNeill did with just cause. Nor is Mr. Furniss accurate in details, which a scene-painter is bound to be. It does not of course matter two straws where Lord Randolph Churchill sat after he had left the Government, whether he sat above or below the gangway, on the second or the fifth bench. Only that if you catch a man, who professes to describe what he saw, making a mistake about a detail like this, you are apt to distrust the rest of his narrative. On p. 187 Mr. Furniss informs us that "Lord Randolph, who had then left the Ministry, sat on the bench in the second row below the gangway, on the Government side of the House. Mr. Jennings was seated on the bench behind, close to where he had found a place for me under the Gallery". Observe the latter touch of locality. To be near "under the Gallery" Mr. Jennings must have sat near the bar, at the end of the House away from the Speaker. As a matter of fact, Lord Randolph Churchill, after leaving the Government, always occupied the corner seat on the second bench *above* the gangway, immediately behind his former colleagues, and Mr. Jennings invariably sat on the bench immediately behind Lord Randolph, a long way off "under the

Gallery". The rupture between Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr. Jennings over the Pigott speech is an historic event, and the account which Mr. Furniss gives of it is partly inaccurate and partly imaginary.

As a specimen of Mr. Furniss' humour we do not think we can pick out anything more characteristic than this. "As Washington is the capital of America, so the Capitol, where Congress meets, is the cap of the capital, the dome, of course, being the Capitol's cap, and a capital cap it is, covering the collective councillors of the country. The Capitol itself looks like a huge white eagle protecting the interests of the States. Audubon's Bird of Washington is the name of the eagle well known to naturalists, but this *rara avis* is the *Falco Washingtoniensis*. At its heart is seated the Supreme Court, keeping its eagle eye on the laws of the land, &c." To those who like this sort of thing, this is the sort of thing they'll like. The last chapter, the "Confessions of an Editor", contains more of human interest than any of the others, for in it Mr. Furniss confides to us that he has discovered, at considerable expense to himself, that the editorial and commercial sides of a journalistic enterprise are two very different things. So they are, and the editor who is his own manager has a fool for a manager. Indeed, "one of the youngest and most successful newspaper proprietors" actually called Mr. Furniss a fool for "producing too good an article for the money". Quoth he, "I have thirty publications, but their names, their contents, writing, or art I never think about, nor does the public either. We ink something on the paper, and sell it at so much a pound profit". This is very interesting, and we think we could, if asked, supply the name of that young and successful newspaper proprietor.

NOVELS.

"The Insane Root: a Romance of a Strange Country."

By Mrs. Campbell Praed. London: Unwin. 1902. 6s.

Romantic sensationalism strongly tinged with spiritualism will always attract the avid and uncritical, and therefore "The Insane Root" may come to be in great demand at the circulating libraries. Mrs. Campbell Praed has here written a story of the occult which will prove convincing only to those readers who are prepared to swallow anything so that it be sufficiently far removed from ordinary experience. Here new marvels are added to old ones and mandragora, the "insane root" of Banquo, is made more terribly potent than Gerard or Sir Thomas Browne could have imagined; not only has it the old power over bodies but it can wonderfully affect spirits. Thus we are shown a man transferring his own spirit to the insensible body of his cousin, so that the body of Caspar walks about informed by the soul and charged with the memory of Lucien. Apart from this spirit-transference and its uncomfortable consequences the novel is the high-faluting romance of an embassy showing how the supposed niece of the Abarian Ambassador at S. James' fell in love, married, and came to an uncomfortable end among the Kabyle mountains of Algeria. Though on the whole it is not convincing, the story succeeds at times in imparting an eerie feeling to the reader, especially when the supplanted soul—a kind of ghost that can be felt but not seen—obtrudes itself between the living man and the woman he loves. The hunter after split infinitives will find pleasant sport in the pages of "The Insane Root".

"When Charlie was Away." By Mrs. Poulteney Bigelow. London: Heinemann. 1901. 2s. 6d.

When we know what song the Sirens sang and what name Achilles bore in Scyros, it will perhaps be revealed to us why so many ladies try to write like ladies' maids. Possibly they feel that in return for cast-off garments they are at liberty to borrow style. "When Charlie was Away" is a clever reproduction of precisely that kind of "smart" vulgarity which wins a temporary success at present. Its literary parent is "The Dolly Dialogues", but the child unfortunately has lost the standard of good taste. "Aetas parentum pejor avis tulit Nos nequiores", might such books say if they could, and if they boom successfully one might

prophecy "mox duros Progeniem vitiosorem". The theme of this "nolette de luxe" as the publishers call it is a grass-widow (who unaccountably does not live in a "maisonnette") who skirt-dances as it were on the edge of a precipice, but kindly believes in a God. She writes to a chivalrous and idealistic admirer that "she still has good shoulders"; and the poor man marries her when Charlie goes away to another world. Mrs. Bigelow can be witty, but there is little novelty in her social satire, and people like her Mrs. March are apt to be as tedious in a book as they are objectionable in life.

"Dumb." By the Hon. Mrs. Walter Forbes. London: Chatto & Windus. 1901. 6s.

He never told his love, vainly imagining that a very clever sympathetic girl would infer it from his passionate desire to marry her and gratification of all her wishes after marriage. Unfortunately there was a beau sabreur who did. So the husband wrote a somewhat unconvincing love-letter, and would have gone away for a time had they not all got mixed up in an Alpine accident. The end may perhaps be imagined, but, lest the reader misunderstand, we hasten to say that she was not that kind of woman at all. The people of the book talk naturally and act melodramatically, but they were cast for an afternoon tea comedy and find themselves in rather deep waters. The book is quite brisk, but we would suggest that Mrs. Forbes ought not to have forgotten an imaginary peer's name in the middle of her story and given him the title of a real one.

"The Lover's Progress." Told by Himself. London: Chatto and Windus. 1901. 6s.

This chronicle of a zigzag progress through these commonplace love affairs claims to be a novel in appearance only. The writer's apology for its form is that "a novel has at least a chance of being read, whereas the mere reminiscences of a nonentity add, fatally, surely, to the many heavy remainders in the hands of the booksellers". Such a plea disarms criticism; it will not change the destiny of the book.

NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"The Anthracite Coal Industry." By Peter Roberts. London and New York: The Macmillan Company. 1902.

This is in some respects a remarkable work, and at the present time, when the question of the reserves of coal in various countries is under discussion, its appearance is opportune. The author taking a limited, but important, area of the great coal-fields of America, has dealt with it in its various aspects, whether geological, technical, social or national; and arrives at conclusions which are well worthy of consideration by all those engaged in the coal industry in every country not excluding our own. The anthracite district of the great Appalachian coal region occupies the eastern portion of the range, rising into ridges trending in a curved line towards the north-west, and separated by valleys—such as that of Wyoming, once a natural garden, but now covered by towns, villages and coal pits. There can be no doubt that the anthracite fields were originally connected physically with the wide Pennsylvanian bituminous coal areas to the west, but the great terrestrial disturbances—arising from contraction of the crust in this region—have thrown the strata, including the beds of coal, into numerous folds and flexures which have added to the problems and difficulties of mining to a great extent, and so raised the cost of mining that considerable tracts are being abandoned; not because the coal has been worked out, but because the margin of profitable working has been reached. The author limits the duration of the anthracite region to the present century, and considers that the second half of this epoch will witness a succession of abandoned collieries till the last is reached.

"History of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce." By Elijah Helm. London: Simpkin, Marshall. Manchester: Cornish. 1902. 3s. 6d.

A commercial society, the parent of the Chamber of Commerce, was founded in Manchester in 1794, and though the actual centenary had passed at the time of the discovery it was decided in 1897 to commemorate the event. Lord Rosebery was present at the celebration to sing the praises of the Manchester School, and his address is duly included in this volume. As a record of the work of a body charged with the interests of a big commercial centre during an eventful period the history is of decided value, but when it drifts into special pleading it is lacking in force. They who believe that we owe everything in the Empire to free trade, as Lord Rosebery does, will be in cordial agreement with Mr. Helm as to the services rendered by the Manchester School; others who take

a more intelligent view will appreciate the claim at its worth. The one thing certain in our Imperial history is that it was through no merit in the Manchester School that the Empire did not go to pieces in the middle of the nineteenth century. The Empire survived in spite of Manchesterism, and one of the chief obstacles to Imperial Federation is our so-called free trade.

"A History and Description of Roman Political Institutions." By Frank Frost Abbott. London: Ginn. 1901. 7s.

Mr. Abbott, who is professor of Latin in Chicago University, in this very clearly written history of Roman constitutional development supplies the student of Roman law and literature with much needed aid to the understanding of the political side of Roman history. Both the legal and the general student are left to pick up their knowledge of the working of the political system casually in the course of their reading: usually in the form of notes to the books they happen to read. We gather from Mr. Abbott's preface that the like unsystematic course is followed in America, and his book should be equally serviceable in both countries. So far as a comparison may be ventured on we may suggest the character of this book by saying that it appears to do for Rome what Anson's "History of the Constitution" does for England. It is not so literary and is more compressed, but it makes use of the best authorities for an interesting and clear conspectus of the whole field.

"The Country Month by Month." By J. A. Owen and G. S. Boulger. London: Duckworth. 1901. 6s. net.

This is a large and closely printed volume of upwards of five hundred pages, full of amiable gossip about birds, plants, insects and quadrupeds. The knowledge the authors possess of wild life is unquestionable, but we are not greatly struck by the arrangement of the mass of matter: there seems to be too much accumulation and too little selection. The late Lord Lilford supplied notes on the matter pertaining to each month. He corrected errors and often he worked in a little from his own large stores of information about British birds. His notes are not invariably illuminating. For instance: "Shoveller I usually spell with two l's, though some spell it with one."

"A College Text-Book of Chemistry." By Ira Remsen. London: Macmillan. 1901.

This is a good practical text-book intended for students who are entering on a college or any secondary course of study. The author, the President of the Johns Hopkins University, believes that the time for the abandonment of the study of elements and their compounds in what some are pleased to call the old-fashioned way has not yet come. That is quite true and it is absolutely necessary that a book like this should be the basis of the introduction to the higher study of chemistry. A student may learn all that he needs here and will find the descriptions of experiments, &c., very well done.

"Hilda's Diary of a Cape Housekeeper." By Hildagonda J. Duckitt. London: Chapman and Hall. 1902. 4s. 6d.

A charming book—and useful as charming—primarily designed for the hands of the Cape housekeeper, but containing a wealth of household and garden lore that will make it welcome under less brilliant skies than those of the Cape peninsula. The author is of mingled English and Dutch parentage, and the pleasant glimpses of social life afforded by her pages contain a promise of the future union of the two races. All whom business, agriculture, or official duties summon to South Africa should take "Hilda's Diary" with them.

"Père Goriot." By Honoré de Balzac. A new translation. London: Virtue. 1902. 2s. net.

This is a new volume of the "Turner House Classics", edited by Mr. William Macdonald. The editor in his enthusiastic introduction—in which he speaks of Balzac as the only modern writer who ranks near Shakespeare—gives an account of the immense struggle against debt Balzac engaged in unceasingly. "He drove himself like a galley-slave, he worked eighteen hours a day, and sometimes more than eighteen."

"The Book of Bulbs." By S. Arnott. London and New York: Lane. 1901. 2s. 6d. net.

This "handbook of practical gardening" is no better than the catalogue issued by any of the more important horticulturists and supplied gratis. The illustrations are not nearly as good as those in Barr, Carter, or Sutton's catalogues. The title of the book is absurdly pretentious.

"The Victoria Regina Atlas." Edinburgh and London: Johnston. 1901.

This is a new edition of a useful work which in addition to the usual physical and political geographic maps contains a geological map of the British Isles, &c., a climatological chart of the world. The index is long and full.

"The Stock Exchange Year Book" by Thomas Skinner is now in its 28th year. It contains a digest of information concerning all public securities and joint stock companies known to the markets of the United Kingdom. The value of the annual depends upon the amount of care with which each issue is revised. For the past year the work has been especially important: "As regards Stock Exchange securities" says Mr.

(Continued on page 242.)

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FRENCH LITERATURE.

Thérèse Heurtot. Par Jean Morgan. Paris: Plon. 1901. 3f. 50c.

At last, we may signal the appearance of a fine, a faultless novel. "*Thérèse Heurtot*" should rank high in the fiction of last year. With M. Jean de Ferrières—author of "*Une Ame Obscure*", Paris: Ollendorff—M. Jean Morgan shares the honour of having produced a book that would add to the reputation of many a more practised and celebrated writer. Indeed, we expect one day to find MM. de Ferrières and Morgan occupying the proud position of "Masters"; in the meanwhile, we would urge our readers to acquaint themselves with their recent work, which, in either case, does not amount to more than three modest volumes. The scene of M. Morgan's last story is laid in the lonely country. Thus, in the opening lines, does he portray to perfection the atmosphere:—"Octobre finissant ajoutait, à cette indicible mélancolie de l'heure, l'angoisse de son grand vent, clamant par les arbres, âpre, lointain, poussant, à travers l'air plus froid, le vol incessant et troublant des feuilles mortes qui passaient en essaims légers, comme de gigantesques papillons blessés, et mettaient contre le ciel perle l'infime tristesse de leur dernière vision". Style at its highest, this. M. Morgan never errs in the choice of his words. "Âpre" is the mot juste, "lointain" and "poussant" a fine sequence. The note of the veritable stylist is also there: restraint. *Thérèse Heurtot*, the wife of a kindly, principled but most unimaginative doctor, is first introduced to us musing, recalling the past. She is sad, weary; but her lassitude leaves her when Dr. Heurtot enters with her boy—René—whose birth took place in the height of a romance that had inevitably to end in a tragedy. *Thérèse*, in fact, has been the mistress of Jean de Hauvannes, a wealthy young châtelain; and René is his son. Brilliant, indeed, is M. Morgan's analysis of his three chief characters. The imaginative *Thérèse*—while admiring and respecting Dr. Heurtot—has been fascinated by the impetuous, impressionable, and highly artistic Jean; for she found in him the particular sympathies and emotions absent in her husband. Jean has studied and travelled, and was eloquent and satirical; Jean soon won *Thérèse*'s confidence and love, and then—after a mutual understanding—disappeared. But Jean returns; and here the tragedy begins. After years of wanderings, Jean finds himself alone in the world. No light is there in his life: he has been constantly disillusioned, and has become embittered. And when he sees René, he feels that his life need no longer remain empty; and so determines to gain the boy's affection, and then show him the world, and make a polished man of him. All this he tells *Thérèse*; but she refuses to persuade her husband into allowing René to accompany Jean on his travels. The situation is a dramatic one. *Thérèse* fears Jean's influence over René; yet still loves Jean. The lover is resolved to bring up René at any cost. The doctor—after a long interview with Jean—does not oppose the idea that the boy should travel and see, and then return enlightened to his home. But *Thérèse* resists; the scenes between her and her lover, in which the mistress becomes second to the mother, are portrayed with consummate skill. Eventually, however, Jean's plan is defeated, and at the moment when it might most easily have been executed. *Thérèse* is loved in secret by a young schoolmaster; and he—after overhearing a painful conversation between the lovers—resolves to remove Jean and thus bind René for ever to his mother. He realises that his love is hopeless. His one aim is to see *Thérèse* happy. And so, one night, he shoots Jean; then commits suicide. The last chapter is most tragically conceived. Dr. Heurtot is summoned to Jean's death-bed, and *Thérèse* and René accompany him. Jean, delirious, raves of René; but dies without divulging the secret. And then? Well, M. Morgan remains an artist to the last. Many a writer would have put *Thérèse* into her husband's arms, thus blotting out the past. M. Morgan, on the other hand, leaves it to the reader to determine what destiny is in store for Dr. and *Thérèse Heurtot*, for René; leaves them at Jean's bedside, in the old château, and so concludes in masterly fashion his tragedy.

Sér de Sérandib. Par Sébastien Voirol. Paris: Librairie Molière. 1902. 2f.

We confess to having read but half of this quite unintelligible volume, and wish now that we had not opened it at all. What does M. Sébastien Voirol mean? Where did he get his inspiration from? Has he published this book for a bet? If the stipulation was that he should write 170 pages of unparalleled nonsense, he is most certainly entitled to the stakes. *Sér*, from Sérandib, comes upon a plague-stricken city, Haard. Everywhere, corpses. What inhabitants remain take *Sér* to the palace of King Raxana. Says the king, *Sér* has been sent to save us; so there is rejoicing, so *Sér* is given a banquet. Spiced dishes are served by slaves. String music is played. Then the king's daughter, Horiama, is literally given to *Sér*; and the couple pass most of their time in a perfumed garden. Perfumes play an important part

in this nonsense: for *Sér* follows a vicious woman whose perfumes are the subtlest, the most intoxicating, in the city of Haard. Misfortunes overtake *Sér* after this folly; we next meet him on a mountain, then with an injured knee, and eventually in the abode of a pseudo-philanthropist, Tsophar by name, who feeds him on rotten meat. The mountain is called Ouchouray, and it is a marvellous mountain. On one occasion "le grand disque rouge apparut": otherwise, the sun. What, the reader will ask, was *Sér*'s business? We do not know; nor can we tell in what age he lived. In fact, we are only sure of one thing: *Sér* should never have left Sérandib.

Quelques-Uns. Par Louis Delaporte. Paris: Fontemoing. 1901.

Most benevolent of critics is M. Louis Delaporte. With Renan, he must believe that "on ne doit jamais écrire que de ce qu'on aime. L'oubli et le silence sont la punition qu'on inflige à ce qu'on trouve laid ou commun dans la promenade à travers la vie". At all events, M. Delaporte never displays cruelty or ill-nature in his critical essays on Anatole France, Zola, Paul Hervieu, and Abel Hermant; but has an admiring word for each and encouragement for less celebrated artists. Without being profound, M. Delaporte's book boasts many an excellent quality that should recommend it to the notice of the English reader. It is well written, and contains not a few charming reflections on the necessity of style in all branches of literature. And then it is witty, as well as generous and refined.

Revue des Deux Mondes. 15 février. 3f.

This is a particularly interesting number. There is the commencement of a story "*L'Étape*" by Paul Bourget which promises well. M. Hanotaux analyses in masterly fashion the "genesis of Richelieu's political ideas". In this he makes some interesting remarks on the position of France as a factor in European politics. "Of all the European Powers she is the most advantageously situated, yet the most exposed. . . . A policy of balance is essentially the French policy." Another saying of the writer's "the worst solution is inaction" is true of statesmen not only in France. Baron Coubertin writes very sensibly of sport in relation to national strength and makes out a very good case for the training of the French boy on English models, so far as they consist in inculcating a practical knowledge of the instruments of defence and locomotion with which modern brains have provided us. M. Charmes is not too unfair with regard to the abortive Dutch negotiations, and M. Pinon's article on "Morocco and the European Powers" is interesting though we are not prepared to agree with his solution of that problem, viz. the absorption of Morocco by France. Like many of his countrymen, M. Pinon is too much alarmed by the spectre of English machinations.

La Revue. 15 février. 1f. 30c.

The approach of the Victor Hugo Centenary has inspired M. Henri Bérenger to write a reverential little essay on "France's Poet", and with it no one will disagree. Two of Hugo's unpublished poems follow, by permission of the publisher, who will include these and others in the great "Master's" last posthumous volume, "*Dernière Gerbe*". M. Camille Maclair contributes one of his colourless articles, this time on "*La Question Morale dans le Roman*". As usual, he has nothing original to say. According to another paper, the directors of the Métropolitain are about to bore a new tunnel. And this tunnel will be more amazing than the other tunnels, as it is to connect Montmartre with Montparnasse. Parisians will therefore have a second opportunity of viewing that phenomenon, that miracle of miracles—"le tunnel".

For This Week's Books see page 244.

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The ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE OF DECEMBER 28, 1901, contained an interesting article on the work done by the Australians in the South African War, also treating semi-humorously with the exaggerated notion which largely holds in Australia that the troops from that country did all the hard work, while our own looked on.

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THE second annual general meeting of this Company was held yesterday at the Cannon Street Hotel, Sir Gerald Fitzgerald, K.C.M.G., presiding.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—This year our report and balance-sheet, which we now have the pleasure of presenting to you, are so explicit that it will be unnecessary for me to detain you long. You will observe that our energies continue to be directed mainly to the Reclamation Works which we are carrying out on the Nile, and to the support of the Soudan Development and Exploration Company, Limited. The Reclamation Works may be regarded as the most important business of our Company at present, and we anticipate that for the next few years a considerable portion of our capital will be devoted to this undertaking. We are happy to report to you that in addition to the first works undertaken at Sohag, which, as we have told you in our report, have so far succeeded, we have now decided upon other sites for this season's works, which promise good results. Our chief desire has been to make no mistakes, and, in order to insure that the Company should not risk failure by undertaking reclamation work about which there could be any uncertainty, we have taken care to employ the best expert advice obtainable. At the time of our last meeting Sir Colin Scott-Moncrieff and Colonel Western were on the eve of starting for Egypt, and they on their return furnished us with a full report of what, in their opinion, we should and should not do. During last winter we further decided to ask Mr. Beresford, who, as you may be aware, was till recently head of the Indian Government's Punjab Irrigation Department and who is now resident in London, to proceed to Cairo. Mr. Beresford on his return also furnished us with a most exhaustive report on the possibilities of our reclamation business, and he will in future act as technical adviser to the Board on this and other affairs of the Company. We are sure we can rely with the greatest confidence upon his undoubted technical skill and business acumen being of the greatest advantage to us. We must not disguise from ourselves that works on waterways in every country are attended with a certain amount of risk, and this we must consider as the speculative element of our undertaking. We can, however, from all the information at our disposal, look forward to an ample return on our outlay. The second business we have undertaken has been the support, in conjunction with the Oceana Consolidated Company and the New African Company, of the Soudan Development and Exploration Company, with which, as you are aware, we are closely allied. The Soudan Company is now amply provided with capital to undertake operations in the Soudan. As you will see from the report the Government of the Soudan has given the Soudan Development Company favourable conditions for the establishment of a flotilla of steamers and steam barges to ply from Khartoum southwards: the terms of the guarantee will ensure the Company against loss in working, and the enterprise is we hope likely to prove a profitable one. This steamer service will form the nucleus of the Soudan Development Company's future enterprise in the Soudan. As regards the undeveloped agricultural, mineral, and other resources of that country, the Soudan Development Company should, especially when its steamers are running, have every chance of sharing in any sound and profitable business that arises as the country becomes opened up. The other principal business in which we have participated has been the financing of the Imperial Ethiopian Railway, the progress of which has been from time to time reported. There is nothing that we can at the moment desirably and usefully add to what is stated in the report just issued to you, but I may tell you that we anticipate before long developments of considerable interest, to all parties concerned, of which you will be informed in due course. With regard to the other enterprises in which our Company is interested, we would inform you that as far as the Anglo-Egyptian Land Company is concerned, it is intended to keep this affair in its present *statu quo* until such time as opportunities of favourable investment present themselves, perhaps in connection with the land we are reclaiming from the Nile. We have other businesses before us which our engineering Staff has under careful consideration, but we think you will agree that, in the Reclamation on the Nile, and our interest in the Soudan, we have at present ample and promising employment for our capital and organisation. I should like to place on record our appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Company by H. H. Prince Hussein Kamil, notwithstanding his many other duties. Sir John Rogers, needless to say, continues to manage our business in Egypt with the greatest care and assiduity. We are pleased to announce that His Highness Prince Ibrahim Hilmy has joined the Board. I should be pleased now to answer any question that any shareholder may wish to put to me.

The report was unanimously adopted.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

THE third ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Illustrated London News and Sketch, Limited, was held on Tuesday, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., Sir William Ingram, Bart. (chairman of the company) presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. L. C. Goodacre) having read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said: He hoped they were all satisfied with the result of the last year's trading of the company. In his opinion it was very satisfactory indeed, they would see they had made a larger increase as regards profit than they did last year. On the other hand, he could tell them that, so far, this extra profit had not been made by any special savings in the cost of the production of the papers. They had increased the size of the *Illustrated London News* considerably during the past year; had given a larger number of pages of illustrations, and had spent more, not only on the art department, but also on the literary department of the papers. With respect to the coming year he had not the least hesitation in saying that, unless some unforeseen circumstance should arise, they would have a considerably larger profit than in the past twelve months. "The papers are going on most satisfactorily. The circulations are larger, and the advertising revenue, although it has not increased, is kept well up to the mark. There is no decrease, and therefore, taking the present position of the papers, we have every reason to expect that there will be a most satisfactory result when the current year's accounts are completed. We have, as you are aware, the Coronation coming on, and there is every prospect that the Coronation will create an enormous amount of excitement throughout the whole country, and will cause a large influx of people from all parts of the world into London. Advertisers, who are always open to their own interests and advantages, will not doubt seize this opportunity of using the best mediums for announcing the sale of their goods—goods which may be attractive to strangers when they come into this huge metropolis—and therefore from advertising we may expect a large increase of revenue. Then, again, there is the sale of the papers. It is impossible now to foretell to what extent the increased circulation of the *Illustrated London News* may attain; but I can assure you we have been making preparations for the event of the Coronation for many months past. We are getting a special Coronation number ready, which I firmly believe will beat any record in the shape of special numbers. You will remember that at the time of the Queen's Jubilee we brought out a splendid record number, and what a great success that proved. You will also recollect how those who had not ordered copies at an early date had to give 10s. or a guinea for a copy. I firmly believe that this coming year will be a record one for the *Illustrated London News* and the other papers connected with it, and I hope that when I meet you this time next year you will be very well satisfied with the result of the year's trading. Personally, I am exceedingly pleased with the final result of last year." He begged to move the adoption of the report of the directors and the balance-sheet to December 31, 1901.

The motion was seconded by Mr. G. J. Maddick, and agreed to without discussion.

The Chairman intimated that the dividend warrants would be posted that evening.

Mr. Pearson said that the remuneration of the directors was fixed at the general meetings of the shareholders, and in his opinion it should be increased in ratio to the increased profits earned by the company. They knew that the directors on their board were not what might be called ornamental. On the other hand, if a larger profit were made, he maintained the directors ought to have a larger share. He would therefore like to propose: "That the directors, including the managing directors, be paid at the rate of £2,500 a year until the company otherwise order by general meeting."

After some discussion, the resolution was put to the meeting and adopted.

The Chairman, on behalf of himself and his colleagues, thanked the meeting for the unanimous way in which they had passed the resolution.

Mr. Leighton moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and remarked that the *Illustrated London News* was the best printed journal, not only in England, but in the world.

The Chairman heartily thanked the meeting for the unanimous way in which this vote had been passed.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE CITY OFFICES COMPANY, LD.

THE annual meeting was held on Tuesday, at Palmers' Buildings, Mr. E. M. Rodocanachi (the Chairman) presiding. The directors in their 56th report stated that the profit and loss account showed a balance to the credit of £7,419 13s. 9d., out of which it was proposed to pay an interim dividend of 4s. per share, and a further dividend of 4s. 6d. per share, making 8s. 6d. per share, free of income tax, for the past year, leaving a balance of £194 13s. 9d. to be carried to the next account. The receipts for the last year amounted to £46,768, as against £45,667 12s. 10d. in 1900. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said that the company had made a purchase of valuable freehold property in the City of London at 77 Bishopsgate Street for £30,000. This was about the first purchase made for some 30 years. They had also bought some leasehold property, forming part of the same property, and which gave them access right through from Broad Street to Bishopsgate Street. It was very gratifying that their gross receipts had increased by some £1,100 over last year. A portion of this amount, £1,036, was attributable to the new properties, but it was very gratifying that, notwithstanding the bad times through which they were passing, and the competition of newer buildings erected in the neighbourhood, the rental from their old properties was £64 more than the previous year. He complained bitterly of the increase in rates and taxes, and said that the London County Council and others continued to expend the ratepayers' money without any regard to the ratepayers' pockets. He did not object to expenditure on remunerative works, but he did object to the promotion of abortive Parliamentary Bills, needless legislation, and the little fads of legislators. Proceeding, he alluded to the proposed issue of preference shares to provide money to repay the loans which they incurred in order to pay for the new property acquired. On the whole, he thought the shareholders were to be congratulated on the position and prospects of the company, and said that they were specially indebted to Mr. Thomas Freeman (the secretary) for the ability he had displayed in constantly looking after their interests.

Mr. S. Peto seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

The Chairman was re-elected a director, and the auditors (Messrs. Bolton, Pitt, and Bredon, and Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths and Co.) were re-elected auditors.

An extraordinary general meeting was afterwards held for the purpose of increasing the capital of the company to £240,000 by the creation of 3,000 preference shares of £120 each. The Chairman remarked that the shares would be issued pro rata, and that they offered a thoroughly good investment. The meeting having adopted resolutions in favour of the increase of capital, the Chairman intimated that the shareholders would be called together on the 11th prox. to confirm their action. The Chairman, in acknowledging a vote of thanks to himself and his co-directors, stated that the Board was much indebted to the secretary (Mr. T. Freeman) for the excellent manner in which he performed his duties.

The proceedings then terminated.

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.

356,000 Shares of £50 each ... £17,800,000.

(CAPITAL PAID-UP	£8 per Share	£2,848,000
Do. UNCALLED	1,602,000
(RESERVE LIABILITY	13,350,000

RESERVED FUND £1,950,000.

DIRECTORS.

J. SPENCER PHILLIPS, Esq., Chairman.

CHARLES EDWARD BARNETT, Esq.	RICHARD BORRADAILE LLOYD, Esq.
JOHN BROOKS CLOSE BROOKS, Esq.	SIR THOMAS SALT, Bart.
WILLIAM DE WINTON, Esq.	WILLIAM SMALL, Esq.
HERBERT WHEELER HIND, Esq.	AUGUSTUS WILLIAM SUMMERS, Esq.
EDWARD BRODIE HOARE, Esq.	JAMES TOMKINSON, Esq., M.P.
RICHARD HOBSON, Esq.	RICHARD VASSAR VASSAR-SMITH, Esq.
J. ARTHUR KENRICK, Esq.	GEORGE DUNBAR WHATMAN, Esq.
GEORGE BRAITHWAITE LLOYD, Esq.	ROBERT WOODWARD, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—BIRMINGHAM.

REGISTERED OFFICE—LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Statement of Liabilities and Assets on the 31st December, 1901.

Liabilities.

Subscribed Capital (being 356,000 Shares of £50 each)	£17,800,000 0 0
Capital paid up, viz., 336,000 Shares at £8 per share	£2,848,000 0 0
Reserved Fund	1,950,000 0 0
Bills or Notes accepted or endorsed	£4,798,000 0 0
Current, Deposit, and other Accounts, including Rebate of Bills and provision for Contingencies	2,271,627 2 4
Liabilities in respect of Customers' Loans to Brokers, fully secured	51,341,414 3 9
	£371,000 0 0
	£38,411,041 6 1

Assets.

Cash in hand and with the Bank of England	£8,830,101 16 5
Cash at Call and Short Notice	4,476,702 1 1
	£13,306,803 17 6
Bills of Exchange	6,881,013 9 8
Consols and other British Government Securities	£5,161,734 1 9
Indian and Colonial Government Securities, Corporation Stocks, English Railway Debenture and Preference Stocks, and Other Investments	3,613,584 8 3
	£8,775,318 10 0
Advances to Customers, Promissory Notes, and other Securities	£28,963,136 7 2
Liabilities of Customers for Bills accepted or endorsed by the Company	25,990,697 6 6
Bank Premises and Furniture	2,271,627 2 4
	1,185,610 10 1
	£38,411,041 6 1

HOWARD LLOYD, General Manager.

AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE AND REPORT.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with.

We have examined the above balance-sheet with the accounts of the Company, including the certified returns from the Branches: and, having satisfied ourselves as to the correctness of the Cash and Investments, and considered in detail the other items of the Account, we are of opinion that such balance-sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs on the 31st December, 1901, as shown by the books of the Company.

During the past year we have visited the various Branches of the Company, and examined the accounts, which we found to be in order.

C. A. HARRISON, BARRATT, WEST & CO.,
PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

29th January, 1902.

The Bank has Correspondents and Agents throughout the British Islands, by whom its Customers' Credits are received and transmitted free of charge. It has also a large number of Colonial and Foreign Agents, upon whom Drafts, Circular Notes, and Letters of Credit, payable in all parts of the world, are granted, and thus offers to the public great facilities for transacting Banking business. A detailed list of such Correspondents can be obtained on application at any of the Branches.

Current Accounts are opened upon the terms usually adopted by Bankers. Deposits are received at interest subject to notice of withdrawal, or by special agreement. Purchases and Sales of Stocks effected, and every description of Banking business undertaken.

A DECLARATION OF SECRECY is signed, on appointment, by every person engaged in the Bank's service.

ESTABLISHED 1851.

BIRKBECK BANK,

Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS.

2% on the minimum monthly balances, when not drawn below £100. 2%

DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

2½% on Deposits, repayable on demand. 2½%

STOCKS AND SHARES.

Stocks and Shares purchased and sold for customers.

BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, post free.

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

Telephone No. 5 Holborn.

Telegraphic Address: "BIRKBECK, LONDON."

The Federated Mines of Rhodesia

LIMITED.

(INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1862 TO 1900.)

CAPITAL - - - - **£250,000**
Divided into 250,000 Shares of £1 each.

100,000 shares are appropriated for working capital, subject to the payment thereof of the proportion of the preliminary expenses payable by the Company. Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company (the prospectus of which has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies) are issuing a Prospectus inviting subscriptions for

250,000 SHARES OF £1 EACH.

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:

1s. Od. per share	on application,
4 0	on allotment,
5 0	on May 1st, 1902,
5 0	on July 1st, 1902,
5 0	on October 1st, 1902.
20 0	

The minimum subscription of 60,000 shares on which the directors may proceed to allotment has been guaranteed, and of the proceeds of such subscription the first £50,000 will be set apart for working capital and the payment of the proportion of the preliminary expenses above referred to.

DIRECTORS.

Sir WALTER L. BULLER, K.C.M.G., F.R.S., 37 Albemarle Street, W. (Chairman).
 Lieut.-Colonel Sir GERARD SMITH, K.C.M.G., Holford House, Baldock, Herts (late Governor of Western Australia).
 FRANK O. ELLISON, 65 George Street, Portman Square, W., Director of Atomic Mines (Limited).
 G. SEYMOUR FORT, 2 Little Stanhope Street, W., Director of Rhodesia Lands and Mines Company (Limited).
 A. J. MACPHAIL, 10 St. Helen's Place, E.C., Director of The Matabele-Sheba Gold Mining Company (Limited), and of Rhodesia Mines (Limited).

SOLICITORS.

PAINES, BLVTH AND HUXTABLE, 14 St. Helen's Place, E.C.

BANKERS.

LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK (LIMITED), Threadneedle Street, E.C., and branches; THE AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION (LIMITED), 43 Threadneedle Street, E.C., and at Bulawayo and Salisbury.

BROKERS.

IRVING, HARRISON, JACKSON AND CO., 3 Copthall Buildings, and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.; H. GILMOUR AND SHAW, 18 St. Andrew's Square, and Stock Exchange, Edinburgh.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

LAKE AND CURRIE, Norfolk House, E.C.

AUDITORS.

DAVIS, ROBERTSON AND CO., St. Lawrence House, King Street, E.C.

SECRETARY—HENRY MACKENZIE.

REGISTERED OFFICES—32 Old Jewry, E.C.

The Prospectus states amongst other things that the Subscription Lists will open on MONDAY the 24th day of FEBRUARY, and will close for Town on or before WEDNESDAY the 26th FEBRUARY, and for Country on or before THURSDAY the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 1902, at 4 p.m.

That this company has been formed primarily to acquire, subject to the regulations of the British South Africa Company, the 765 mining claims in Rhodesia, mentioned in the prospectus, and also to participate in the general development of that country, which may reasonably be expected to follow the cessation of hostilities. The claims to be acquired extend 114,750 feet along the presumed lines of reef in the following districts:

Lomagunda, Mazoe, Abercorn, Umfuli, Gwanda, Gwelo, Belingwe, Bulawayo, Makukupane, and Shangani. The purchase also includes the farm known as "Leechdale," consisting of 6,000 acres.

Most of the claims are located in districts of Rhodesia which are at the present time gold-producing, whilst a large number of the properties are also adjacent to the line of railway, and several of them are in the favoured districts of Lomagunda, Gwanda, and Gwelo.

The approximate positions of the above claims are shown in red on the plan accompanying the prospectus.

Although no systematic development work up to the present has been carried out on these claims, they have been selected from a much larger number on account of either their proximity to other well-known properties, the favourable results obtained by prospecting, or other special reasons.

Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Lake and Currie, who have agreed to act as consulting engineers to the company, that they at once select a competent staff to start prospecting work upon the claims which have been acquired, and one of the partners of the firm will proceed to Rhodesia, and to advise as to the future development of the company's properties.

The policy of the directors will be to thoroughly prospect these claims, with a view of first selecting such as are most promising, and bring them to such a stage of development that they may be re-sold to subsidiary companies.

The following notes relate to a number of the more important claims to which the company will in all probability devote immediate attention:—

GYPRING, BELINGWE, 15 Claims.—According to Mr. L. E. Tyler, who reported upon the property for the original claim-holders, these claims contain a good run of old workings, and are the immediate extension of the L reef, the property of the Anglo-French Matabeleland Company.

CHELAN, BULAWAYO.—Consists of 10 claims, the old workings upon which are very considerable, but no development work has yet been done. This property can be economically worked in conjunction with the Howard, which adjoins it.

HOWARD, BULAWAYO, 30 Claims.—On this property there are several old workings on which shafts have been sunk. Continuance of work recommended. Mr. L. E. Tyler, in reporting on these claims for the original owners, stated that "the old workings are large enough to anticipate there being a reef of some value below, and that they are of considerable length." This property joins the well-known Dewhurst Reef, the property of the Clarke's Consolidated.

COLUMBINE, 10 Claims, and VENICE, 20 Claims, Gwelo District.—Consisting of 30 Claims.—These three blocks of claims cover a large line of old workings, the largest about 220 feet in length. The panning of some quartz left upon the dumps gave 1 oz. prospect.

MAHDI, Lo Magundi District, 10 Claims.—Is situated N.E. of Lo Magundi District on the Angwa River. These old workings are situated on the top of a precipitous hill, and are very extensive. This property could be very cheaply worked by means of adit levels, which would give a frontage of about 300 feet, with considerable water power, and excellent facilities for conserving same. The quartz obtained from a small prospecting shaft on the reef assayed 26 dw. The existence of Lo Magundi Railway will greatly facilitate cheap working, and should make the

development of this property an easy matter. There is abundant timber in the neighbourhood.

DIGGER'S CREEK, Bulawayo, 10 Claims.—Pannings from cross-cut at 60 feet from surface gave 13 dw.

OLD BULAWAYO, Bulawayo, 20 Claims.—There is an extensive old working on this property. Pannings from drive at about 40 feet from surface gave from 5 dw. to 1 oz.

BOADICEA, Belingwe, 20 Claims.—Parallel to and adjoining properties on the direct line of the Great Belingwe Reef.

LEECHDALE FARM, which is acquired by this company, consists of 6,000 acres (including the Leechdale Claims referred to in the above schedule). It is considered one of the best agricultural and pastoral farms in the country situated in the Shangani. The railway from Bulawayo to Salisbury now passes through the farm, which should greatly enhance its value for letting or resale.

Every encouragement is offered by the Chartered Company of British South Africa to companies such as this, whose object is the introduction of capital and experience to assist in the development of Rhodesia, which is now rapidly being opened up.

Prospectuses and forms of application can be obtained from the bankers and brokers and at the offices of the company.

Dated 19th day of February, 1902.

The Federated Mines of Rhodesia, Limited.

No.....

SHARE CAPITAL . . . £250,000

Divided into 250,000 Shares of £1 each. 100,000 Shares are appropriated for Working Capital, and for the purposes of the Company.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of

THE FEDERATED MINES OF RHODESIA, LIMITED.

GENTLEMEN,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £.....being a deposit of 1/- per Share on application for.....Shares of £1 each in the above Company, I request that you will allot me these Shares, and I hereby agree to accept the same or any less number of Shares that you may allot to me upon the terms of the Prospectus, dated 19th February, 1902, and of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members in respect of the Shares so allotted to me.

Ordinary Signature.....

Name (in full).....

Address.....

Occupation.....

Date.....1902

**PLEASE
WRITE
DISTINCTLY.**

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Printed for the Proprietors by SPOTTISWOODE & CO. LTD., 5 New-street Square, E.C., and Published by FREDERICK WILLIAM WYLY, at the Office, 38 Southampton Street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, in the County of London.—Saturday, 22 February, 1902.